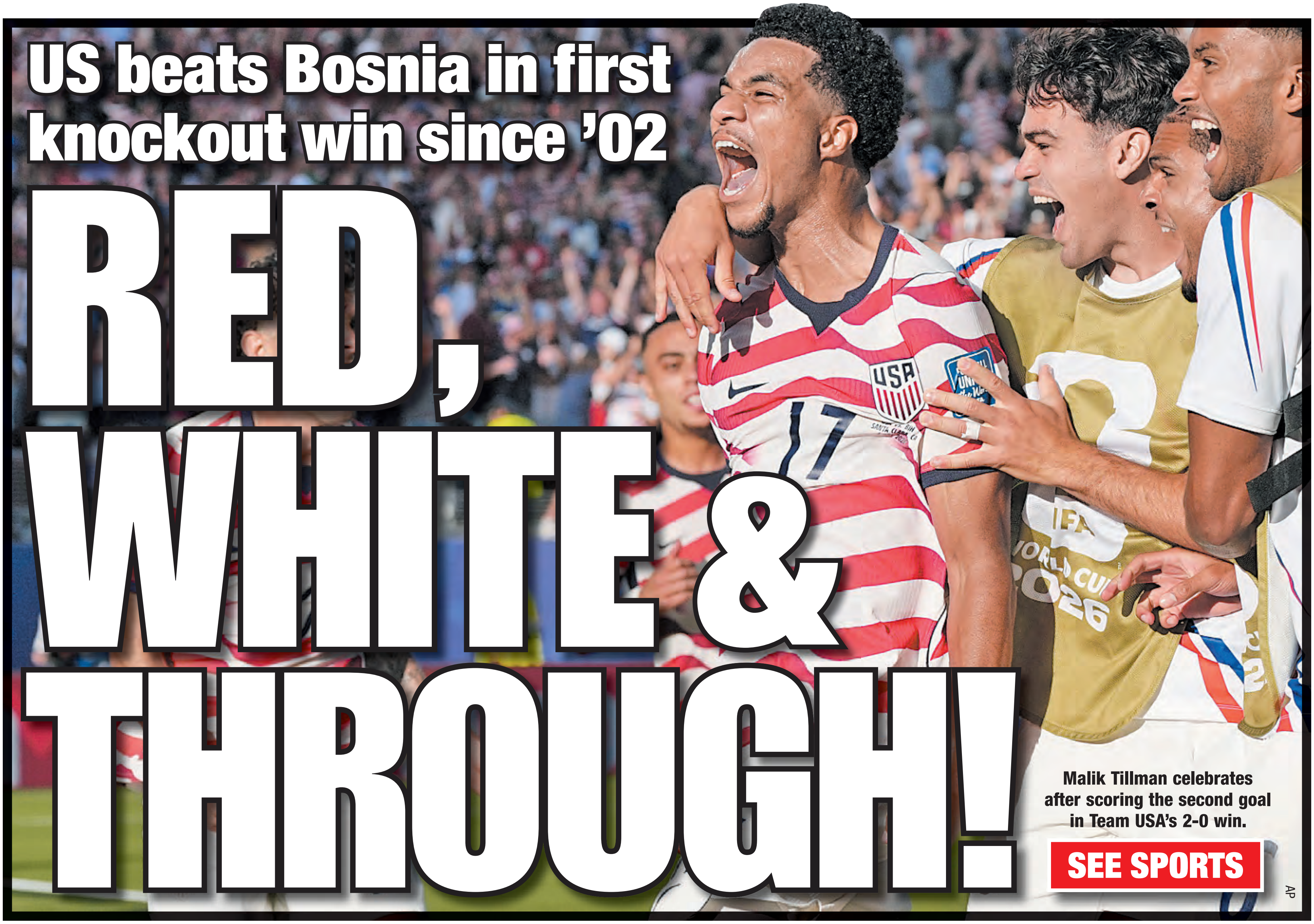
NEW YORK POST

Page Six®

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2026 / Sunny, very hot, 99° / Weather: P. 30 ★★ LATE CITY FINAL nypost.com $2.00

Happy 250th Birthday, USA

Special section celebrating an exceptional nation inside



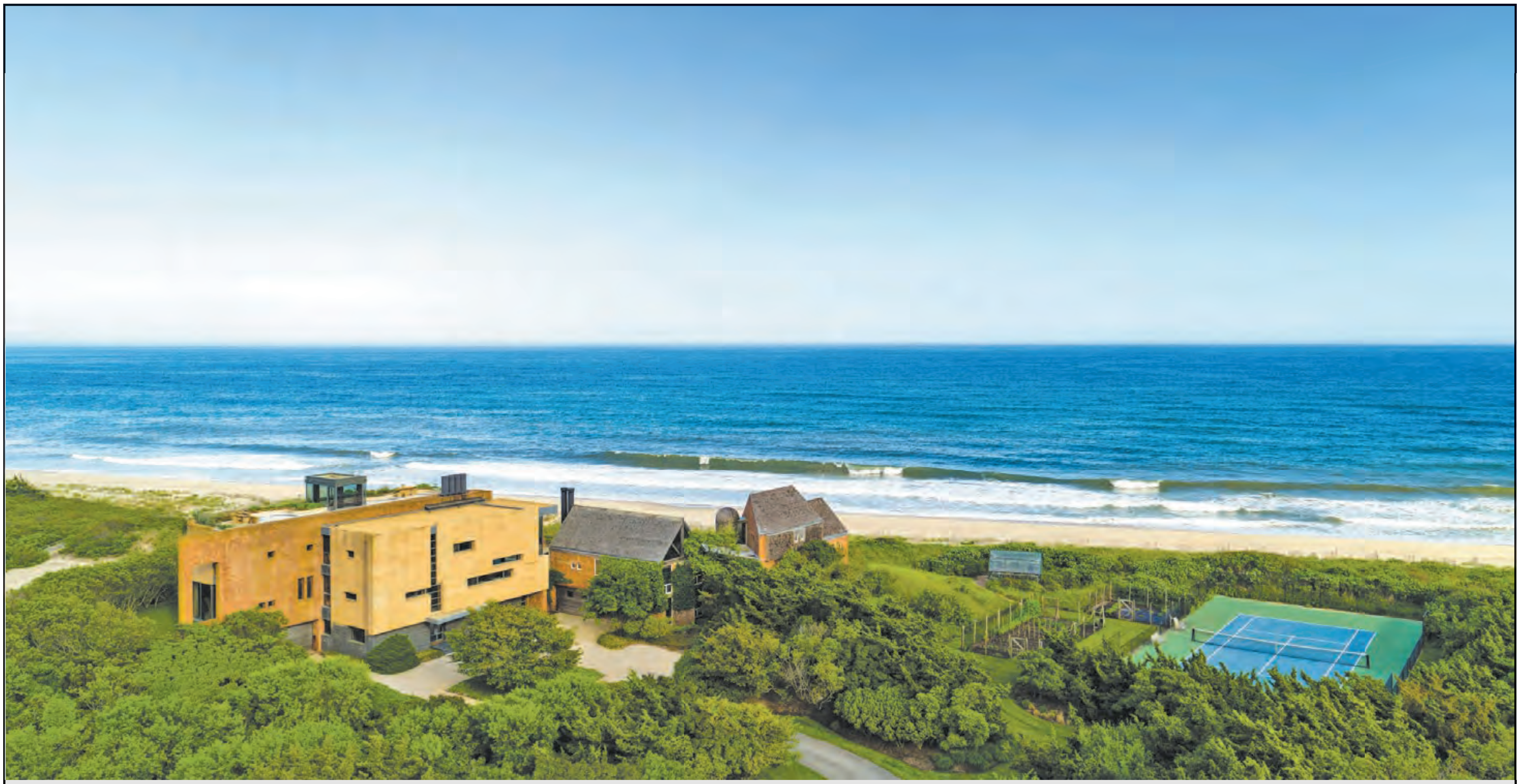
US beats Bosnia in first knockout win since ’02

RED, WHITE & THROUGH!

Malik Tillman celebrates after scoring the second goal in Team USA’s 2-0 win.

SEE SPORTS

AP



SAGAPONACK OCEANFRONT MODERN RESIDENCE

EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATION

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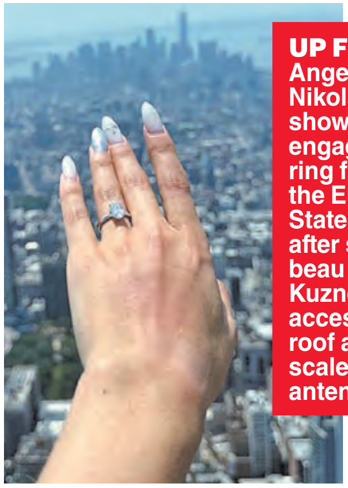
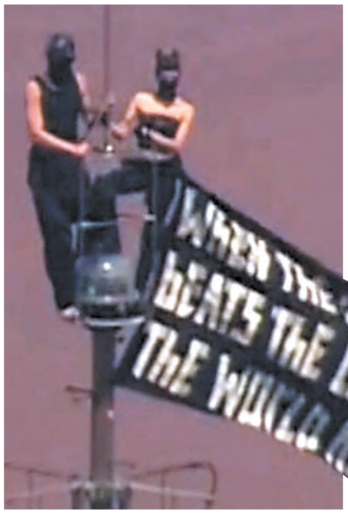
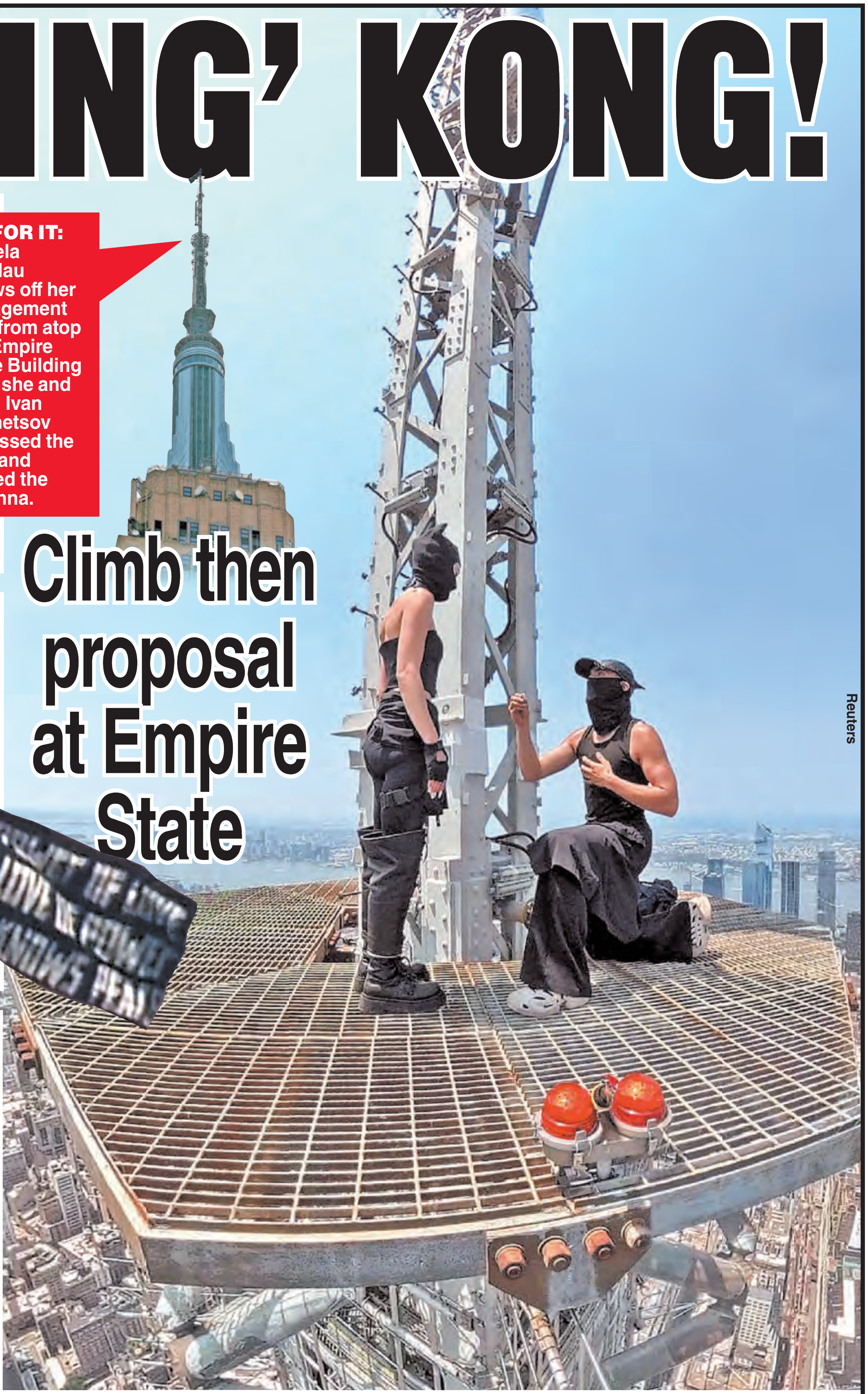
HE’S ‘RING’ KONG!

Climb then proposal at Empire State




WHEN THE POWER OF LOVE
BEATS THE LOVE OF POWER
THE WORLD KNOWS PEA



UP FOR IT: Angela Nikolau shows off her engagement ring from atop the Empire State Building after she and beau Ivan Kuznetsov accessed the roof and scaled the antenna.

Reuters

By JOE MARINO, CHRIS NESI,
REUVEN FENTON
and DANIEL CODY

A pair of kissing daredevils scaled the Empire State Building’s 1,454-foot antenna in a cringe Instagram stunt before being arrested Wednesday.

Angela Nikolau, 33, and her beau — who goes by Ivan “Vanya” Beerkus on social media but was identified as Ivan Kuznetsov, 32, by sources — were carrying a banner reading “when the power of love beats the love of power the world knows peace” as they got engaged atop the landmark at around noon.

The banner’s message is a slightly modified version of a quote frequently misattributed to guitar legend Jimi Hendrix, which was actually spoken by 19th century British politician William Gladstone.

After lingering at the top of the tower for around 30 minutes, the climbers began making their way down the spire to the viewing platform, which appears to have been evacuated.

Facing charges

As the couple reached a platform at the base of the spire, Beerkus dropped down on one knee and proposed to Nikolau — who was wearing a black cat mask — with a ring that she later flaunted on Instagram.

The lovers, who live in East Orange, NJ, were taken into custody upon reaching the ground and later charged with felony burglary, reckless endangerment and criminal mischief, as well as misdemeanor raps of possession of burglar’s tools and criminal trespass. They were awaiting arraignment late Wednesday.

It was not immediately clear if they bought tickets to access the observation deck. But a source told The Post the duo allegedly breached a mesh gate on the 102nd floor — the highest publicly accessible story — to reach the 103rd floor, which is exclusively used for maintenance.

The mesh gate and other security measures were recently installed in the stairwell between the 102nd and 103rd floors, following previous attempts by trespassers to take selfies near the spire, according to sources. An Empire State Building spokesperson told The Post, in part: “The unauthorized incident at the building has been resolved.”

Bodycam footage captured the moment the daring duo was caught scaling the landmark.

“Hey I got eyes on ’em,” an NYPD officer can be heard saying in the video while climbing toward the lovebirds.

“How you doing? You can’t be up here!”

“I’m OK,” responded Nikolau, before being taken into custody.

Ahmed Hassan, 46, a hot dog vendor who works nearby, told The Post that he’d “never seen anything like it.”

“Everyone stopped walking and started pointing up,” he said, adding that passersby “were buying hot dogs just so they had an excuse to stand around and watch.”

The couple looked like a “tiny black dot,” according to witness Jasmine Chen, 27, who was initially concerned about the stunt.

“Was it terrorism? Was it a protest?” she recalled wondering. “But then I started hearing ‘marriage proposal,’ and someone showed me on Instagram the guy on one knee. “I thought it was actually incredibly romantic in this over-the-top way,” she said. “I wouldn’t mind a proposal like that.”

Others were less impressed. “Maybe I’m just getting old, but I don’t really get it,” said 54-year-old Tom Loughran. “Is this what love is now, a performance?”

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HOT TO TROTSKY

THEIR TIME HAS

DAVID HARSANYI

A hateful horde has run amok

SOCIALISM is a cancer, and it's metastasized. Democratic Socialists of America candidates are no longer relegated to dense urban areas on the East and West coasts.

Extremists are on the rise in virtually every Democratic Party stronghold in the country.

And those who believe that DSA candidates are merely dispatching a few "moderate" Democrats have it wrong.

In Colorado's 1st Congressional District, Democratic Socialist Melat Kiros just knocked out near-30-year incumbent Rep. Diana DeGette, a prominent member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

DeGette supported an array of hard-left positions, including eliminating ICE, socializing medicine and authoritarian "green" energy mandates.

A decade ago, there would have been virtually no lawmakers to the ideological left of DeGette in the House.

Next session, there will be at least a dozen.

Israel obsession

DeGette's real sin, of course, was failing to adopt the interminable unhinged anti-Israel and anti-American rhetoric that's become central to DSA messaging.

While Kiros entertains every antiquated and failed collectivist economic idea imaginable, it wasn't affordability or expensive housing that lifted her campaign among largely well-heeled urban primary voters.

It was her obsessive antagonism toward the tiny Jewish state that excited activists.

Like other DSA members, Kiros is a Hamas apologist, justifying the rapes, murders and kidnappings of young women and children on Oct. 7 as an "inevitable" outcome of "occupation."

When a terrorist named Mohamed Sabry Soliman threw Molotov cocktails at a group of peaceful Boulder demonstrators advocating for Hamas to release hostages held in Gaza — eventually taking the life an 82-year-old Holocaust survivor — Kiros prevaricated and refused to call it an antisemitic attack. To do so would have surely turned off many of her supporters.

In her victory speech, Kiros — who was fired from New York law firm Sidley Austin for posting a defense of Columbia "protesters" who targeted Jewish students — said one of her main goals after she joins Congress is to end the imaginary "genocide in Palestine."

Then again, most "Free Palestine" activists can barely hide their contempt for the United States, as well.

One common belief among DSA candidates seems to be that the 3,000-plus Americans who lost their lives on 9/11 had it coming.

She believes it was — again — "inevitable" because of America's actions.

What wasn't inevitable is this trend of Third World hatreds and ideologies being popularized within one of our two major political parties.

And, no, mainstream Democrats aren't meekly surrendering to these socialists: They're actively pursuing the extremists' support.

Not only will other Democrats seek to ally with "dirtbag left" — a term coined by Pennsylvania Sen. John Fetterman, one of the few in his party courageous enough to call out the anti-Americans — but House and Senate candidates are almost surely going to feel compelled to radicalize their own agendas to avoid primary challenges.

Anti-American

"One of the things that makes the Democratic Party great is it's a big-tent party," quisling New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker said of Darializa Avila Chevalier and other socialist champions itching to overturn the constitutional order. "We need to stay that way."

"I'm not afraid of new members or new ideas in the party," California Sen. Adam Schiff said of the new socialists. "I welcome it."

Well, communism isn't a new idea. Nor is antisemitism. The only thing new here are Democrats willing to submit to the most extremist anti-American politicians the nation has ever seen.

David Harsanyi is a senior writer at the Washington Examiner. X: @davidharsanyi

DSA Colo. win shows it's not just Mamdani

By RYAN KING

WASHINGTON — Democratic socialism is spreading west.

Political newcomer Melat Kiros, 29, became the latest democratic socialist to take down a mainstream Democrat in a stunning upset Tuesday in Colorado, beating 15-term incumbent Rep. Diana DeGette while riding a wave of anti-Israel and anti-ICE sentiment sweeping her party.

She's part of a growing list of far-left candidates winning key races, illustrating that Mayor Mamdani's victory in the Big Apple last year wasn't an aberration specific to New York.

To date, the Democratic Socialists of America claimed 38 wins from its 2026 endorsement list of 150 candidates nationwide, while taking 38 losses. Kiros is the fifth victory in a House race.

The Ethiopian-born doctoral student has pushed to abolish Immigration and Customs Enforcement, suggested that the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas attacks were "inevitable," downplayed suggestions that a firebombing of a Jewish rally was an act of antisemitism and more.

Once in the House of Representatives, which is considered likely because she's in a safe blue district, Kiros has vowed to push Democrats as far left as possible and to oppose Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) becoming speaker.

'Lost faith in system'

Kiros refined many of her far-left views in law school at Notre Dame in the early 2020s, a period she describes as her political awakening, as the country was roiled by the COVID-19 pandemic and peak wokeness.

"I literally watched the Federalist Society handpicking some of my classmates onto

Reuters

Kamala kissing Zo ring

HOT TO TROTSKY

COMMIE

Aristide Economopoulos

GO LEFT, YOUNG POL: The victory by socialist newcomer Melat Kiros in a congressional primary in Colorado against a longtime Democratic incumbent reveals that the leftward shift in the party is much more widespread than just the NYC win of Mayor Mamdani, flanked by Sen. Bernie Sanders and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (right).

AP

the judge track in their decades-long bid to pack the courts," she complained, according to Vox. "I just lost faith in the system; I think a lot of young people did."

After law school in 2022, she joined the law firm Sidley Austin in New York, where she worked as a regulatory and enforcement associate. The following year, she was fired for writing a viral open letter lambasting law firms for pushing to crack down on antisemitism on college campuses.

"By chilling future lawyers' employment prospects for criticism of the Israeli government's actions and its legitimacy, you are complicit in Israel's weaponization of anti-Semitism against legitimate concerns for the right of self-determination and the livelihood of the Palestinian people," she wrote in the missive.

Sidley Austin demanded she take the letter down, but Kiros claims she refused and was fired as a result.

"I didn't flinch because I stood by every word and I always will," she boasted during her victory speech Tuesday.

That move drew headlines and boosted her name recognition in lefty circles.

After losing her law gig, Kiros moved back to Colorado, where her family had immigrated when she was just 11 months old. Her father had been picked in America's Diversity Visa Lottery, according to her campaign website. Back home, she enrolled in a Ph.D. program in public policy and worked as a barista.

Path of candidacy

In the middle of last year, she decided to launch a seemingly long-shot primary challenge against DeGette, who is widely considered a progressive lawmaker and has served in Congress longer than Kiros has been alive.

But Kiros' candidacy caught fire with the DSA and other lefty groups that were hunting for candidates to take on incumbent Democrats and push the party further leftward.

Kiros, however, made tough talk against the Jewish state a feature of her campaign.

For example, she told notorious lefty streamer Hasan Piker that the Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas attack was an "inevitable consequence of apartheid," though she later clarified she wasn't trying to say it was justified.

In a similar vein, she told 9News that the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks were an "inevitable consequence" of US foreign policy.

ryan.king@nypost.com

Kamala Harris is quietly strengthening ties with one of the Democratic Party's fastest-rising progressive stars, holding an extended private phone call with Mayor Mamdani.

The conversation, which took place last week, focused on the future of the party and served as the beginning of what is expected to be a longer series of discussions between the two, Axios reports.

"This is about positioning for the 2028 primary, where no candidate knows where the lane for support for Palestinian rights is going to be but they know there's going to be one," Republican consultant Mike Madrid told The Post.

"No question this is a risky move, but it's one transforming both parties and the calculus at the moment has become it's better to do something than nothing," he added.

Harris' outreach came days after democratic socialist candidates backed by Mamdani scored victories in three New York congressional primaries, defeating two incumbent lawmakers and further cementing the mayor's growing influence within the party.

Strategist Matt Klink told The Post that the choice Harris is making is a "a strategic calculation for 2028."

"The 2024 loss made clear that the activist left, if not energized, has enough leverage to sink a Democratic nominee, and she would rather have those people knocking doors than burning down her campaign before it starts," he said.

The outreach is part of a broader effort by Harris to rebuild relationships with the Democratic Party's progressive wing, particularly activists critical of the Biden administration's handling of Gaza.

"Harris is 'kissing the ring' in her Mamdani outreach, as the mayor is the most high-profile DSA leader in America," Klink said.

Zain Khan

Socialist shift gains steam: poll

Nearly one-third of Democrats say they want to see democratic socialists in office, according to a new poll released as far-left candidates rack up victories in New York City and Colorado.

A firm 32% of Democrats indicated they like democratic socialist pols, compared to just 11% who don't and 56% who have no strong opinions on them, according to a survey from Pew Research.

Predictably, among self-described liberal Democrats, 52% like politicians who identify as democratic socialists, while 4% dislike them and 43% don't have an opinion.

Moderate and conservative Democrats were more split, with 17% inclined to dislike socialists, compared to 15% who liked them, and 66% with no opinion.

Democratic socialists had the highest support from white, younger, upper-income, and college-educated party members — despite their claim of standing against the elites of society and for the working class.

White Democratic support for the socialist wing (40%) is nearly double that of black (21%) and Hispanic Democrats (20%).

Four in 10 upper-income Democrats also say they like democratic socialists, compared to 34% of middle-income Dems and 24% of low-income Dems.

The left flank of the party has racked up a series of victories in Democratic primaries over recent weeks, largely in safe blue districts.

More than three dozen Democratic Socialists of America-backed candidates have won their primaries so far this year.

Pew Research sampled 8,512 Americans Jan. 20-26. The survey had a margin of error of plus or minus 1.4 percentage points.

Ryan King

Parking scofflaw stickers returning to NYC

By NICOLE ROSENTHAL
and GEORGETT ROBERTS

They're sticking it to bad parkers!

Fluorescent "shame stickers" are set to make a Big Apple comeback for the first time in over a decade — to bully drivers who ignore alternate-side parking rules.

The City Council Tuesday approved Intro-92, allowing street sweepers to once again apply neon adhesive stickers to the driver's-side window of cars found skirting the law.

"This vehicle violates NYC parking regulations," the 8½-by-11-inch signs say. "As a result, this street could not be properly cleaned."

The bill would repeal a 2011 ban on the stickers, after complaints their adhesive was too difficult to take off and sometimes damaged windows.

"Street cleaning only works when cars move," said City Councilwoman Gale Brewer, an Upper West Side politician who sponsored the legislation.

Mixed reviews

The city's alternate-side parking rules bar motorists from parking on one side of a street — typically once or twice a week for roughly 90 minutes — while it's being cleaned.

Cleanliness ratings averaged 94 out of 100 after stickers were used in 2011, compared to a prior average of 73 before the stickers, according to a City Council committee report on the proposal.

Brewer claims constituents have figured out that risking a $65-a-pop parking ticket is cheaper than a monthly parking garage rental — leading to nearly 500,000 scofflaws cited and 3,000 miles of streets citywide that can't be cleaned each week.

Conditions have deteriorated so much in recent years that Brewer coordinates a monthly cleaning on West 83rd Street with sanitation crews and NYPD, she said.

"People need to move their damn car," Brewer huffed at the meeting. The bill now awaits the mayor's signature.

During a hearing for the rule change this year, then-sanitation commissioner Javier Lojan called the stickers "the most effective things that we can do to deter vehicles not moving for alternate-side parking."

But not everyone is cheering the stickers' comeback.

"The sticker is an overreach," fumed delivery driver Lucian Coard, who was sitting in his car on West 72nd Street Wednesday afternoon. "It's damaging, the adhesive is tough. To get it off, you gotta scrape it off."

One doorman at JP Plaza called the stickers "a waste of money," adding: "I really don't think people care about being shamed."

Former Councilman David G. Greenfield called the plan a "blatant" due-process violation. But, he added, "Everyone hates car owners, so behold, they're back."

One fan, of course, was Sanitation Commissioner Gregory Anderson.

"Selfish car owners who prioritize their convenience over clean neighborhoods will soon be peeling stickers off their cars, while also paying for a summons," he said.

sanitation
THIS VEHICLE VIOLATES N.Y.C. PARKING REGULATIONS.
As A Result, This Street Could Not Be Properly Cleaned.
A CLEANER NEW YORK IS UP TO YOU!
SANITATION

YELL-O THERE! Tough-to-peel-off neon stickers (right) are back after more than a decade to shame parking scofflaws (like the "Game of Thrones" shame nun, below) into letting street cleaners do their job.

Shame!
Shame!
Shame!

DSNY

HBO Max

The Fifteenth Amendment.
ITS RATIFICATION BY THE REQUISITE NUMBER OF STATES.

Twenty-eight states have now, through their legislatures, ratified the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which declares that "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any state, on account of race or color, or previous condition of servitude, and that the Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

The names of these states are:

A new right to vote

The Post is counting down to America's 250th birthday with a look back at the nation's — and the paper's — history. Every day leading up to the big event on July 4, we're publishing notable covers and stories from our archives:

15th Amendment ratified Feb. 3, 1870

Though there were "several states yet to be heard from, their votes cannot change the result" of the 15th Amendment's ratification, which granted African-American men the right to vote, The Evening Post reported.

Twenty-eight of the then-37 states — a three-fourths majority — voted to make the third and final post-Civil War Reconstruction Amendment the law.

Happy 250th, USA!

Nevada was the first, and Iowa cast the deciding vote to prohibit disenfranchising voters "on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

President Ulysses S. Grant said it "completes the greatest civil change and constitutes the most important event that has occurred since the nation came to life."

Secretary of State Hamilton Fish made its official proclamation the next month — and denied New York's attempt to rescind its ratification after the Empire State Legislature changed parties. *David Russell*

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LOTTERY

NEW YORK
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■ Midday Win-4 Wed.: **6482**
■ Midday Take-5 Wed.: **20, 25, 27, 30, 32**
■ Evening Nos. Wed.: **925**
■ Evening Win-4 Wed.: **5736**
■ Evening Take-5 Wed.: **4, 14, 19, 24, 29**
■ Lotto Wed.: **3, 4, 10, 15, 23, 51**; Bonus: **19**
■ Pick-10 Wed.: **7, 9, 13, 18, 19, 20, 27, 32, 34, 36, 40, 41, 46, 51, 53, 56, 59, 69, 75, 77**
■ Millionaire for Life Wed.: **23, 25, 29, 36, 48**; MB: **4**
■ Powerball Wed.: **2, 6, 26, 39, 68**; PB: **6**; PP: **x2**; DP: **10, 20, 30, 60, 64**; PB: **7**

NEW JERSEY
■ Pick-3 Wed.: **410;** Fireball: **1**
■ Pick-4 Wed.: **6356;** Fireball: **1**
■ Cash-5 Xtra Wed.: **3, 12, 25, 39, 43**; Xtra: **2**

CONNECTICUT
■ Play-3 Wed.: **098;** Wild: **5**
■ Play-4 Wed.: **4914;** Wild: **2**
■ Cash-5 Wed.: **4, 11, 14, 25, 28**

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Shvitz just the beginning

Get ready for some hot times in the city.

New York City's intense heatwave officially began as temps hit the mid-90s Wednesday — and forecasters say the Big Apple is on its way to a possible 100 degrees for the first time since 2012 later this week.

The roasting temperatures are expected to last through the weekend, with Thursday and Friday potentially hitting highs of 100 degrees, according to AccuWeather.

The last time Central Park hit 100 degrees was on July 18, 2012, which tied for the hottest day since 1966, AccuWeather senior meteorologist Carl Erickson said.

With humidity and other weather conditions, that 100 degrees will feel more like 110, Erickson said.

"If you have to be out . . . make sure to take breaks in the shade and drink plenty of water and electrolytes," Erickson said. "Limit your time outside to before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m., [to avoid] when the heat is expected to be at its worst."

Mayor Mamdani has declared a heat emergency.

"The single most important thing you can do in these temperatures is to stay indoors with air conditioning," he said. "If you can avoid going outside . . . please do so." *Ronny Reyes*

Beer fiends stab worker

A Queens deli worker was stabbed repeatedly when he tried to stop a trio from stealing two cases of Modelo beer last week, cops and sources said.

The worker, 42, noticed the three alleged booze thieves fleeing from El Patroncito Deli Grocery on 108th Street near 41st Street in Corona around 2:20 a.m. June 21 and chased after them, according to police and law enforcement sources.

The thieves knifed the worker in the back.

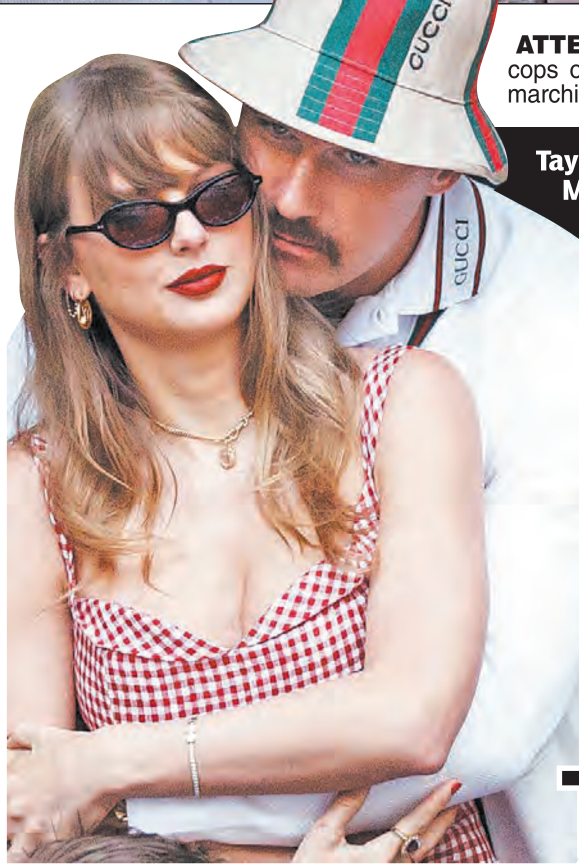
The employee went to Elmhurst Hospital, where he was listed in stable condition, authorities said.

Amanda Woods

BACKGRID

NYPD SWIFT SWAT

ATTENTION TO 'DETAIL': An NYPD detail of dozens of cops outside Madison Square Garden this week gets its marching orders in preparation for the gala "royal" wedding.



Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce's wedding at Madison Square Garden will last more than 10 hours on Friday, Page Six can exclusively confirm:

3:30 p.m.: Doors open

4 p.m.: Cocktail hour on the sixth-floor concourse

5:30 p.m.: Ceremony on the arena floor

6:30 p.m.: Reception, expected to go until 2 a.m.

Blue blitz at Garden for Tay's big day

By HALEY BROWN, CRAIG McCARTHY and DAVID PROPPER

Hundreds of New York's Finest are set to be out in full force for Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce's two-day wedding celebration at Madison Square Garden — which a former NYPD bigwig predicted will be as huge as a "presidential visit" for the city.

Roughly 130 cops will be stationed outside the World's Most Famous Arena each day of the "Cruel Summer" singer's nuptials, according to law-enforcement sources and an internal NYPD memo obtained by The Post.

Swift, 36, is expected to have a rehearsal dinner Thursday evening for about 100 guests at the Infosys Theater at Madison Square Garden, according to the memo.

She's then said to be hosting a mega-bash for about 1,000 of her nearest and dearest on Friday, with guests expected to arrive in the early afternoon and the festivities expected to go on until around 2 a.m., sources have said.

Stretched thin

"If I can compare it to any type of event, I would compare it to a presidential event. You have to close down roads and have arteries to get people around," said Rodney Harrison, the NYPD's former chief of department, noting police could deploy drones overhead and set up barriers around the Garden for the high-profile wedding.

"You'll have to have a pen so people can see their favorite star or athlete. Let's not forget Travis Kelce has fans."

He stressed protecting the event was "something not abnormal for the NYPD."

Road closures around the arena are also expected with VIP entrances slated for West 31st Street and West 33rd Street, according to the internal memo.

The deployment of cops comes as the NYPD has been stretched thin thanks to the World Cup and the Knicks' championship run. Cops will also be handling major events this weekend with the celebrations tied to America's 250th anniversary.

The pop star is expected to be on the hook for OT costs, while other cops will be working their usual shifts, sources said.

The department was expected to spend $92 million on police overtime and extra equipment costs this summer for the various major events taking place, Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch previously told the City Council at a meeting. It's not clear if that estimate includes the deployment for Swift's wedding, which will involve some cops on OT shifts, according to sources.

But Detectives' Endowment Association president Scott Munro argued the wedding festivities would further exhaust NYPD personnel, including about 5,000 detectives who have each worked 85 hours of overtime in the past month.

Bad timing

"Our people are out there working in this heat day and night. During the Knicks finals, they got choked, bit, spit at," he told The Post. "Do you really think they needed to do this wedding right now in New York?"

"I don't think it's a good time to do it right now. I think our people are tired. I'd say with everything going on for Fourth of July, do you really think that needed to be done here on Friday night?" Munro added, stressing Swift should thank law enforcement.

Tisch referenced the star-studded event, but did not mention Swift by name, at a press conference about Fourth of July security Wednesday.

"I would be remiss not to mention an event at Madison Square Garden on Friday night," she said. "The NYPD will of course have a detail in place, but I am not going to go into more specifics on that at this time."

Mayor Mamdani chuckled when a reporter asked if "the billionaire [should] be paying for the price of cops protecting the billionaire's event?" during the same briefing, but neither he nor Tisch answered questions about the cost of staffing the wedding for taxpayers. The NYPD also didn't return a request for comment.

"You know, we will be prepared for crowds, whether they're going to be outside of Madison Square Garden, or they're going to be gathering outside any of the viewing sites for the Fourth of July fireworks," Hizzoner said on 1010 WINS on Wednesday.

HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!

A sight to sea in NY Harbor

This is really going to float your boat.

Magnificent military ships have begun sailing into Big Apple ports this week in preparation for America's 250th birthday.

The USS Arlington was ceremoniously sprayed with water as it glided Tuesday into the New York Harbor, where it will participate in Saturday's International Naval Review 250.

The Antonio-class amphibious transport dock ship arrived as part of the annual Fleet Week, which was rescheduled from its traditional Memorial Day stronghold to July Fourth for the momentous flotilla.

The USS Arlington — one of three Navy ships named to commemorate the Sept. 11 attacks — was among the first of the warships, tall ships and international ships to arrive in New York.

The nearly 30 gray hull vessels that will anchor in the Hudson River are set to voyage into the area on Wednesday.

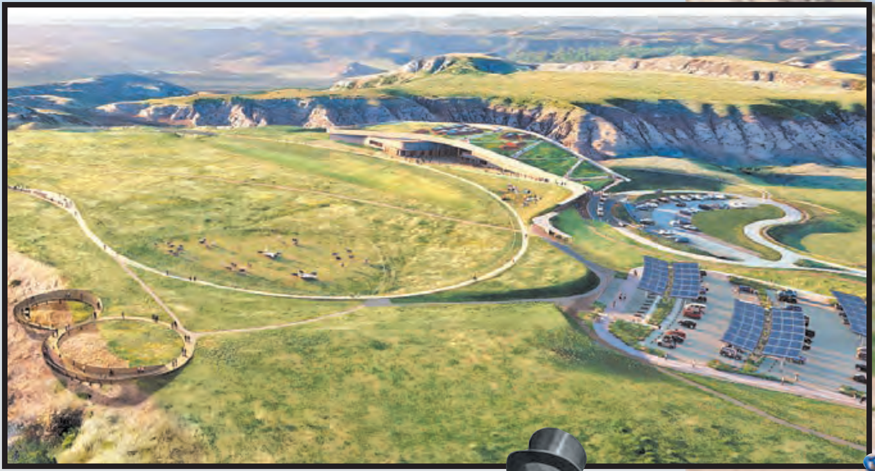
In addition to the Arlington, the flotilla will include the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz, carrying an MQ-25 Stingray and four F/A-18E Super Hornets, the Aviationist reported. Nimitz is the longest-serving aircraft carrier in the US fleet and the lead ship of her class. It is set to be retired in 2027.

So far, only a handful of countries have had vessels arrive in the New York Harbor area.

The Netherlands' Oosterschelde (above) sailed through Tuesday and docked in the Hudson River off Westchester.

About 80 vessels will arrive by Saturday, representing more than 20 nations. *Katherine Donlevy*

TEDDY GOES



Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library

OT THE MAN WHO POINTS OUT HOW THE STRONG MAN STUMBLES, OR WHE
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E WITH THOSE COLD AND TIMID SOULS WHO NEITHER KNOW VICTOR

LAND OF LIBERTY: The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library (above) stands on 90 acres (top) given by the US Forest Service, which the 26th president created.

Badlands a good spot to honor Theo

By CHADWICK MOORE

MEDORA, ND — All presidents loved America, but no president loved its actual soil, its forests and mountains, quite like Teddy Roosevelt.

So its fitting the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library is anchored into North Dakota's Badlands like an extension of the earth itself, its low, terrain-toned form and sweeping glass walls blending seamlessly into the dramatic, rainbow-tinted landscape.

Designed by the world-renowned Norwegian firm Snøhetta, it's also the only presidential library where visitors can arrive by horseback.

"Teddy Roosevelt was a naturalist," Matt Briney, communications director for the library, told The Post on a recent tour of the site. "Throughout his life, the outdoors was the way that he got healthy.

"He is also an impossible person to live up to, an epic life. One chapter of his story is more incredible than the last."

But how did the presidential library come to be located 1,700 miles from his birthplace of New York City and the state where he was governor before becoming the nation's youngest president?

On Valentine's Day in 1884, Roosevelt suffered an unimaginable double tragedy when his mother, Martha, and his wife, Alice, died just hours apart in the same house. Grieving, he fled the East Coast to find solace in the harsh, rugged frontier.

Hard-won respect

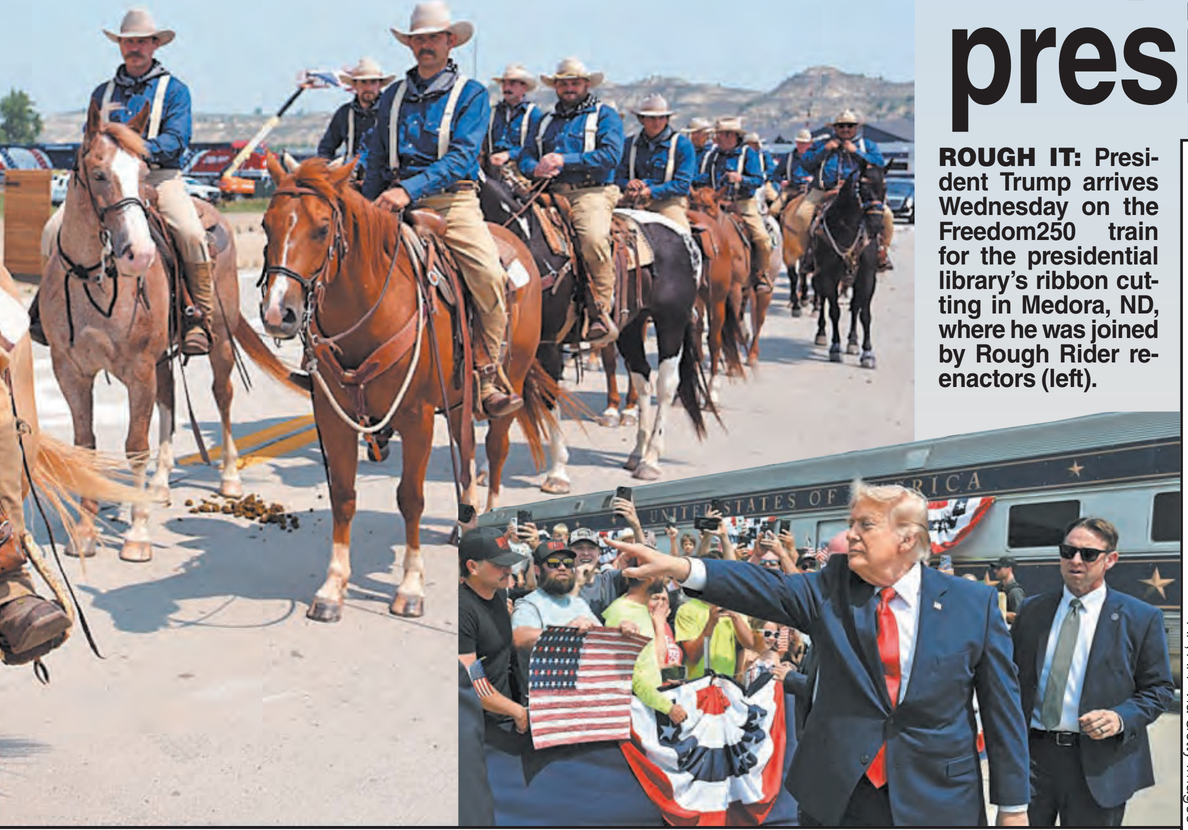
The odd, bespectacled city-slicker set up Elkhorn Ranch, where he ran cattle and got the hard-won respect of local cowboys, who simply referred to him as "that dude" or "Old Four Eyes."

"I never would have been president if it had not been for my experience in North Dakota," Roosevelt said on a whistle-stop tour in 1903. "It was here that the romance of my life began."

Roosevelt — one of only two presidents from New York City, alongside Donald Trump — be-

DON IN HISTORY

Trump tribute at new presidential library



ROUGH IT: President Trump arrives Wednesday on the Freedom250 train for the presidential library's ribbon cutting in Medora, ND, where he was joined by Rough Rider reenactors (left).

AP; AFP via Getty Images

By EMILY GOODIN
and STEVEN NELSON

MEDORA, ND — President Trump paid tribute to Theodore Roosevelt as a "great man" while cutting the ribbon to his new presidential library in the Dakota Badlands — after interacting with an artificial intelligence-powered hologram of his predecessor.

"He never stopped, never quit and never surrendered in pursuit of his dreams," Trump said of his fellow New Yorker, who was also born into wealth before dramatically recasting the Republican Party as a trust-busting reformer.

"He had a freakin' wild life," Trump said in a largely improvised hourlong speech, as he recounted Roosevelt's rise from a thin, asthma-plagued New Yorker into a "strong as an ox" outdoorsman, war hero and builder of the Panama Canal.

Trump regaled a large audience with stories of Roosevelt's life in Medora between 1884 and 1887, including chasing criminals 300 miles and hunting a grizzly bear.

Seeing eye to AI

"He didn't want to be quiet, he wanted to be great," Trump proclaimed of Roosevelt, who led the nation from 1901-1909.

"He summoned the will to transcend tragedy and triumph and defeat heartbreak with hard work," Trump said after spending about two hours looking at museum exhibits.

The library used AI to develop a hologram of the former president, who spoke to Trump when he was at the Oval Office exhibit.

The real and AI presidents discussed the Panama Canal, which Trump pines to return the passage to US control.

Trump asked if the crucial trade corridor was Roosevelt's proudest accomplishment, to which the long-dead politician replied by rattling off other feats.

Roosevelt made multiple trips to the American West during his life but described his years in Medora as transformative after his wife and mother both died of different causes within hours of each other on Valentine's Day 1884, when Roosevelt was just 25.

'Fate's master'

"In his library, we find his diary open to the page from 1884 when his mother and his wife died on the very same day in the very same house," the president said, referring to the Manhattan townhouse less than a block from the present-day Trump Tower.

"He arrived at this town narrow-chested, 140 pounds . . . He was shattered from the death of these two people that he loved the most, and his body and his spirit were pretty much broken.

"Theodore Roosevelt did not surrender to fate," he added.

"He came here to Medora and made himself fate's master . . . He left here two years later, he weighed 40 pounds more, and he was strong as an ox."

Trump delivered his remarks outdoors with a backdrop of reenactors dressed as the Rough Riders cavalry unit Roosevelt led in the Spanish-American War, including in the Battle of San Juan Hill in Cuba in 1898.

The troupe escorted the presidential motorcade on horseback and later some danced to "Y.M.C.A." alongside Trump after he was finished speaking.

Roosevelt is the only president to be awarded the Medal of Honor, which he received posthumously in 2001 for leadership of the Rough Riders. Trump loaned to the library the actual medal, which has resided in the Roosevelt Room of the West Wing.

The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library opens to the public on July 4.

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came a national hero before his presidency during the 1898 Spanish-American War. During that campaign he resigned as assistant secretary of the Navy to organize and lead the Rough Riders, a volunteer cavalry unit.

The dramatic stories from Cuba, where he led a charge up Kettle Hill during the Battle of San Juan, boosted his political profile, helping him win the governorship of New York in 1898 and the vice presidency in 1900.

"His name is so well known from having a battalion of reporters with him the entire time, and feeding stories. This is where he's first learning that bully pulpit and the power of the press," Briney said.

Roosevelt became America's 26th commander in chief when President William McKinley was assassinated by an anarchist in 1901, and he served until 1909 — overlapping with the nation's 125th commemoration, the halfway point between the country's founding and today.

Unifying figure

The progressive Republican aggressively broke up monopolies through antitrust actions and expanded federal power.

His "Big Stick" foreign policy helped advance the Panama Canal and won him the Nobel Peace Prize for mediating an end to the Russo-Japanese War.

Roosevelt is most remembered as a conservationist, creating national parks, forests and wildlife refuges that have protected over 230 million acres of the US — a nation-defining manifestation of one man's deep love for nature.

"A grove of giant redwood or sequoias should be kept just as we keep a great and beautiful cathedral," Roosevelt once said.

The privately funded library is operated by the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation. After years of stalled efforts, Congress transferred 90 acres of federal land from the US Forest Service, which Roosevelt created, to enable construction.

At one exhibit, visitors can see every surviving article from the 1912 assassination attempt on Roosevelt in Milwaukee — along with the blood-stained 50-page script and dented eyeglass case that the bullet passed through before lodging in his chest.

He gave a 90-minute speech before getting medical attention.

"People look to Theodore Roosevelt and they see what they want America to be. He's such an easy, unifying figure," library CEO Ed O'Keefe told The Post.

"Republicans, Democrats, Independents — Theodore Roosevelt is like a Rorschach test. What you see in him says more about you than it does about him."

‘Attacker’ was ‘wonderful,’ vic posted

Vic lauded ‘rape-slay’ bro-in-law

By CHRIS NESI, BRANDON CRUZ
and JORGE FITZ-GIBBON

The Long Island doctoral student who was allegedly raped and strangled to death by her obsessed brother-in-law gushed over him as “one of the most wonderful people in the world” in a haunting Facebook post after he married her sister.

“My sister, my person, my partner in chaos, is now married to one of the most wonderful people in the world,” reads Victoria Castle’s message accompanying a photo of her accused killer Joseph Horner sharing a post-nuptials kiss at their wedding venue.

“I love you both forever!” the post, which has taken a dark new meaning following her horrific death, concluded.

Less than three years later, Horner, 27, stands accused of Castle’s brutal murder, sexually assaulting and then strangling her while his wife was away on a bachelorette trip, cops said.

‘Shocked & sickened’

Prosecutors said at his arraignment that Horner was “obsessed” with Castle for more than a decade before the vicious attack and lusted over the victim for nearly a decade.

The attack allegedly took place in their shared North Massapequa home June 29.

Horner — a music teacher in the Oceanside School District — lived in the upstairs apartment of the multifamily house with his wife, while Castle lived in the ground-floor unit, according to the Nassau County District Attorney’s Office.

He allegedly asked Castle, a PhD student at Stony Brook University, to help him move a piano before attacking her from behind, placing her in a chokehold until she went limp, at which point he stripped her naked and raped her, officials said.

Instagram / @vooozaa

FAMILY HORROR: Joseph Horner (far left), 27, allegedly strangled sister-in-law Victoria Castle (above right) at their shared North Massapequa home Monday while his wife, Allie, Victoria’s sister, was away.

Afterward, he called 911 and waited for the cops to show up, admitting to detectives he had committed the heinous act.

He was arrested for homicide at the scene.

Horner was charged with second-degree murder on a felony complaint and is being held without bail.

In an online post, Sierra Catletti, a teacher who knew Horner’s family, expressed shock over the grisly turn of events.

“I grew up close to his family and am shocked and sickened by what he did to this beautiful girl,” wrote Catletti, who now lives in Texas.

“Never in a million years would I think he’d be capable of something like this,” she said. “But guess you never really know someone.”

On Wednesday, the Oceanside School District said Horner had been placed on indefinite leave pending an investigation.

“Nassau County officials indicated that these charges have no connection to the school district or its students,” a statement from the Oceanside superintendent said. “We recognize that this news is extremely disturbing, and we want to communicate with you directly.”

MS. RACHEL
Gave to Chevalier, Lander.

Kids star $upports Zoh pals

Controversial kids YouTuber Ms. Rachel donated $3,500 to a crew of Zohran Mamdani-backed liberal candidates who ousted establishment Democrats in party primaries that leaders admitted were fueled by anti-Israel furor.

Ms. Rachel — whose real name is Rachel Griffin Accurso — gave to House candidates Darializa Avila Chevalier and Brad Lander ahead of the June 23 primaries. Her husband, Broadway and “Songs for Littles” music director Aron Accurso, also donated $1,500 to Chevalier.

Both insurgent, left-wing candidates won, toppling pro-Israel incumbent Reps. Adriano Espaillat and Dan Goldman.

Social-media star Ms. Rachel — a modern-day “Mister Rogers” — has more than 20 million followers on YouTube and 5 million followers on Instagram.

She is a staunch critic of Israel, having accused the Jewish state of “genocide” and of deliberately slaughtering thousands of children in Gaza.

Both Chevalier and Lander are also critics of the Jewish state.

Ms. Rachel declined comment. *Carl Campanile*

Hit-run great-gran death vid

Video footage captures the moment a beloved 93-year-old great-grandmother was killed by a hit-and-run biker on a Bronx street.

The clip shows retired nurse Leonara Campbell being struck and dragged on the pavement near White Plains Road and East 225th Street at about 2:30 p.m. Monday.

Another video of moments before the collision shows the biker gunning the engine to blow past a changing traffic light.

“He was speeding up,” an eyewitness told The Post. “He was trying to make the light. Then, ‘Boom!’ He hit her.”

The biker glanced back before speeding off on his 2012 Yamaha YZF-R1, authorities said.

Campbell was on her way to pick up medications and candy for neighborhood kids, and food for one hungry boy, her family said.

*Kevin Sheehan
and Jorge Fitz-Gibbon*

Fam murder fiend curt obit

The grandmother suspected of poisoning her daughter and four grandchildren in her upstate home before taking her own life was remembered by surviving family only in a perfunctory two-sentence obituary.

“Amy J. Steadman, 64, passed away on Tuesday, June 23, 2026. Per the request of the family, services were held privately,” the obituary posted by Albany-based New Comer Creations and Funerals reads in its entirety.

Steadman, her daughter, Sarah Myers, 44, and Harmon children Harper, 13, Hudson, 11, Gavin, 10, and Gracelynn, 10, were found dead at Steadman’s home in Mechanicville during a police welfare check.

A handwritten note found at the home “strongly suggests” that she poisoned the five before taking her own life, Mechanicville Chief of Police Bill Rabbitt said last week. *Patrick Reilly*

Pool kid drown anguish

A heartbroken New Jersey father recalled the crushing sight of discovering his 3-year-old son lifeless and face down in the backyard pool last weekend.

Little Elijah Stephen slipped out of his Blackwood home on Saturday and tragically drowned in the family's pool, according to a GoFundMe organized by the family.

The boy's father, Michael Stephen, was in the kitchen when his "heart [sank]" after noticing the back door was left open, he said in a social media post Monday.

Stephen and wife Sandra Shevlin raced to the backyard and saw "the worst thing any parent could see" — Elijah face down in the pool, motionless with blue lips and no pulse.

"The images will forever be burned into my mind," wrote Stephen, a cop and military veteran.

"I wasn't fast enough. I failed. I will spend everyday replaying that."

The distraught dad started to perform chest compressions on his son and first responders arrived within two minutes of Shevlin dialing 911.

The boy was rushed to a hospital but due to the severity of swelling on the brain, doctors were unable to revive him. *Ella Morrison*

'Puppy mill' B'klyn slap

A Brooklyn pet store sold hundreds of commercially bred dogs while trying to dodge a state puppy mill ban by falsely posing as a rescue center, according to a lawsuit from the Attorney General's Office.

Puppy Boutique, aka Quality Canines, illegally advertised and sold puppies from their Dyker Heights store despite retail puppy sales being effectively outlawed, the suit alleges.

The operators claimed their pooches were all rescues from an out-of-state charity, the suit says.

Owners did not respond to requests for comment.

Peter Senzamici

Lovely Zen's a fashion goddess

Emmy-winning and sartorial superstar Zendaya takes Manhattan by storm Wednesday on her press junket for "The Odyssey" in a stunning tunic-like dress from Khaite. Zen plays Greek goddess Athena opposite Matt Damon's Odysseus in the flick in theaters this month.

Christopher Peterson / SplashNews.com

SURVIVAL OF THE CATTIEST

Get ahead via gossip

By ALLIE YANG

Great news for Page Six fans: Gossiping may give you an evolutionary advantage, research suggests.

Next time you start worrying that it's somehow unbecoming to dish on the details of Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce's wedding — or a juicy rumor about a colleague — know that researchers in Poland found that indulging in a bit of tea time is actually good for you.

Those engaging in the rumor mill were more likely to have both a romantic relationship and more kids, suggesting that these behaviors have a small reproductive advantage.

Social psychologist Dr. Marcin Moro looked less at the fun, harmless kind of gossip ("Have you heard who Karamo Brown hooked up with?") and more at the darker side of it ("Did you see what Nicola Peltz posted about Harper Beckham?").

Damage rival's rep

He found that by damaging a rival's rep, a gossip might get them to stop competing for the same romantic partners. With an emptier playing field, the gossip might have more options and a higher chance of landing a great catch.

There are two key strategies: self-promotion, or signaling physical attractiveness or good qualities — think posting a thirst trap; and rival derogation, or tearing down others and discouraging them from competing for your crush — i.e., gossip.

A gossip might also give the silent treatment, backhanded compliments or teasing, and/or exclude others, to hurt rivals while elevating themselves.

This underhanded maneuvering is a form of aggression, which humans have evolved to use to compete for limited resources, find a good mate, ward off enemies and secure a good social position.

To be clear, everyone does it. One study found a person on average spends an hour a day talking about others.

And people love to be brought in on juicy information, cooperating with gossipers rather than denying them, a study from 2024 found.

Maximizing harm

Gossip and other shady behaviors allow a person to maximize harm to another person while avoiding basically all danger to themselves, researchers in another study said. The gossiper can also remain anonymous or be difficult to identify, making it hard for them to face consequences.

There are other benefits to being in the know. If there's a secret shared between two people (positive, negative, or neutral) it brings them together and might even increase fondness between them.

Gossip can be a way to vent or let off steam. If a person witnessed something bad, talking about it made them feel better.

Another factor at play: self-esteem. By shading others, research suggests people feel better about themselves.

Sickle cell Rx OK'd for kids as young as 2

The Food and Drug Administration has approved expanded use of Vertex Pharmaceuticals' gene therapy in children as young as 2 years old with inherited blood disorders, including sickle cell disease, the first such treatment cleared for this age group.

Casgevy, a one-time treatment made from a patient's own blood stem cells, was previously approved for patients aged 12 and older with sickle cell disease or transfusion-dependent beta thalassemia. The approval was granted in 53 days. *Reuter*

HIZZ LATE $NEAK

DRAG STORY TIME: Drag queen Yuhua Hamasaki reads to kids during a past World Pride event in New York.

$7M 'trans equity' tab

By CARL CAMPANILE

The City Council earmarked nearly $7 million for "trans equity" programs and drag story hours as part of the massive $126 billion spending plan approved Tuesday.

The taxpayer money will go to programs and services "to help empower the transgender and gender non-conforming (TGNC) community," the council members wrote in the adopted expense budget which was approved by Mayor Mamdani.

The spending was OK'd by the Democrat-dominated council on the same day the US Supreme Court upheld red state bans preventing transgender athletes from competing against biological girls' competitive sports.

"Funding may support education programs, employment services, workforce development, healthcare navigation, legal guidance, community workshops, or academic research, among others," the council said.

But critics questioned the use of taxpayer dollars to promote transgenderism while basic services got short shrift, with Mamdani falling short of a pledge to hire 580 more cops.

"Why isn't there more money for police?" state Conservative Party Chairman Gerard Kassar said.

The Dyker Heights resident noted one person was killed in his neighborhood during gang violence last weekend.

"There are countless dollars going toward extreme, far-out programs," Kassar said. "This goes way beyond recognizing transgender individuals into spending millions of taxpayer dollars to promote transgenderism."

Drag on the budget

The $6.45 million in outlays for "trans equity" programs includes:

- $1 million to Destiny Tomorrow, a LGBT group in The Bronx that just announced the "first-ever transitional housing program for transgender New Yorkers."
- $705,000 to Gay Men's Health Crisis
- $600,000 to Advocates for Trans Equality Education Fund
- $600,000 to the Caribbean Equality Project
- $500,000 to Trans Formative Schools, Inc.
- $440,000 to Translatina Network, Inc
- $350,000 to the Fund for The City of New York
- $320,000 to Pride Center of Staten Island
- $305,000 to Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center
- $280,000 to Community Health Project
- $275,000 to Services And Advocacy For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual And Transgender Elders, Inc.
- $250,000 to Parents of Lesbians and Gay Men
- $200,000 to Visiting Nurse Service of New York Home Care II, Gender Affirmation Program
- $200,000 to Make The Road New York
- $150,000 Gays and Lesbians living in a Transgender Society
- $150,000 to the New York Transgender Advocacy Group
- $105,000 to Transit Equity Health Care/Planned Parenthood

DEPARTMENT
OF NEW YORK
POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY
YORK

Ire over cut to promised cops

By CRAIG McCARTHY
and MATT TROUTMAN

Clueless City Council members were blindsided by Mayor Mamdani's 11th-hour move to ax nearly 600 promised new NYPD cops from the city's behemoth budget, leaving them bracing for more surprises, sources revealed.

Mamdani sprung the cut on council Speaker Julie Menin late Monday right after they hashed out a backroom deal for the eventual $125.8 billion budget, insiders told The Post.

The ambushed lawmakers had taken Mamdani at his word weeks ago that he'd hire 580 more officers, although that pledge angered the democratic socialist's lefty allies because it broke a campaign promise to freeze the NYPD's headcount at 35,000 cops.

"We were completely blindsided when the mayor sucker-punched us with this reversal after a deal was done," said David Carr (R-SI), the council's minority leader.

"When an administration publicly announces that it is hiring 580 police officers, you're supposed to be able to take them at their word. Not once from the announcement was there any sense that this needed expansion of the uniform headcount could be on the chopping block."

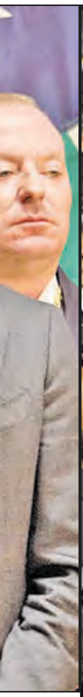
'Completely deliberate'

The far-left-appeasing move also put the council speaker in a bind because if she objected, it would have derailed a budget deal as the city was already in danger of blowing past a Wednesday deadline, insiders said.

"It was completely deliberate," one insider said. "He did it at the last minute so the council couldn't do anything."

Council members ultimately approved the record-breaking budget 45-6 late Tuesday without fully knowing what it contained, owing to the last-minute, ram-

ATTACK ON NYPD



COP OUT: Mayor Mamdani blindsided lawmakers with an 11th-hour budget move, sources said. The reversal leaves NYPD boss Jessica Tisch (far left with mayor) to fight crime with 580 fewer-than-promised cops.

James Keivom

shackle scramble to pull it together, insiders said.

The council members — as well as New Yorkers in general — still didn't fully know a day later what curveballs the adopted budget contained, as documents detailing the spending plan's specifics still hadn't been released.

The wait prompted not-so-quiet grumbling from lawmakers such as Councilwoman Joann Ariola (R-Queens), who called it disgraceful that Mamdani left the city in the dark on the budget, despite his campaign pledge to deliver a transparent government.

"If the mayor is deceptive enough to pull the police from the budget at the last minute, who knows what he is hoping to slip into the final budget," she said.

"The rug pull with the NYPD is the exact kind of treachery I have come to expect from the administration. They are all smiles up front, but behind the scenes they are working to destroy this city in whatever ways they can."

The fraught budget deal nearly imploded as it came down to the wire because of Mamdani flip-flopping on a campaign promise to fund the expansion of a housing voucher program.

Hizzoner and Menin ultimately struck a deal on vouchers, albeit one that left many progressives and moderates unhappy.

But those gripes were arguably overshadowed by Mamdani's maneuver to walk back the plan to add more cops, especially as the stretched-thin force faces a massive summer workload, with officers working 12-hour shifts this week due to World Cup tourism and the Independence Day holiday.

The NYPD's staffing crunch goes back to 2020, when retirements started to outpace new recruits.

Menin 'blew it'

One source called the cut "incredibly ironic," given the added officers weren't meant to boost the force but rather provide some relief to overworked street cops, a priority of Mamdani and his progressive allies.

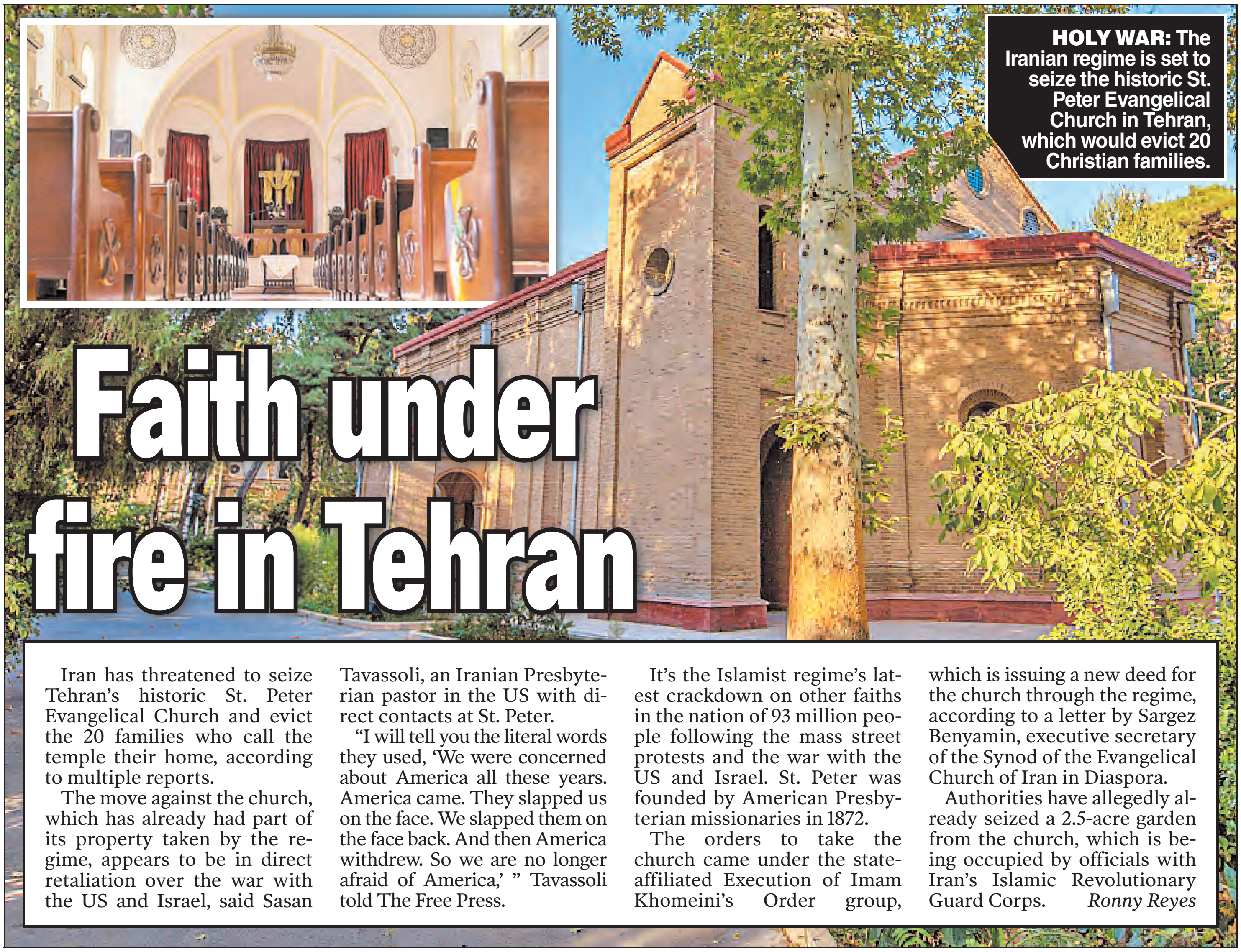
Some lawmakers and other insiders were peeved the speaker didn't put up more of a fight behind closed doors after Mamdani's surprise cut.

"She had the chance to show she was pro-cop and tell the mayor no, and she blew it," said a source familiar with the budget negotiations.

Mamdani didn't respond to questions about the cut when confronted by a Post reporter after a Fourth of July safety briefing. He instead smiled and nonchalantly walked inside City Hall.

Additional reporting by Haley Brown

THE BATTLE FOR IRAN



HOLY WAR: The Iranian regime is set to seize the historic St. Peter Evangelical Church in Tehran, which would evict 20 Christian families.

Wikimedia/Herbert karim mashi

Faith under fire in Tehran

Iran has threatened to seize Tehran's historic St. Peter Evangelical Church and evict the 20 families who call the temple their home, according to multiple reports.

The move against the church, which has already had part of its property taken by the regime, appears to be in direct retaliation over the war with the US and Israel, said Sasan Tavassoli, an Iranian Presbyterian pastor in the US with direct contacts at St. Peter.

"I will tell you the literal words they used, 'We were concerned about America all these years. America came. They slapped us on the face. We slapped them on the face back. And then America withdrew. So we are no longer afraid of America,' " Tavassoli told The Free Press.

It's the Islamist regime's latest crackdown on other faiths in the nation of 93 million people following the mass street protests and the war with the US and Israel. St. Peter was founded by American Presbyterian missionaries in 1872.

The orders to take the church came under the state-affiliated Execution of Imam Khomeini's Order group, which is issuing a new deed for the church through the regime, according to a letter by Sargez Benyamin, executive secretary of the Synod of the Evangelical Church of Iran in Diaspora.

Authorities have allegedly already seized a 2.5-acre garden from the church, which is being occupied by officials with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. *Ronny Reyes*

Rift with Saudis from war

The war in Iran and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz have caused a rift between the US and Saudi Arabia, leaving America to consider possibly reducing its military footprint in the kingdom, officials said.

Disputes over President Trump's handling of the war and economic threats to Saudi Arabia have caused the partnership to sour, with both Washington and Riyadh allegedly snubbing each other and cutting back on the mutual military alliance, officials told The Wall Street Journal.

The fallout has led the US to reconsider its presence in the kingdom and focus its forces on nations that support the war with Iran, including Israel and Jordan, sources told the outlet.

Last month, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman notably turned down an invitation to attend the G7 summit in France as a direct protest of the US handling of the war in Iran, sources told the Journal.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio skipped Saudi Arabia during his Middle East tour last week. It remains unclear how big the rift has become as the relationship helps fuel the petrodollar, critical mineral supply chains and allows for major trade of American arms.

Ronny Reyes

Cooler days ahead

US-Iran truce for week amid talks

By CAITLIN DOORNBOS

The US and Iran on Sunday agreed to a weeklong de-escalation in the Strait of Hormuz, cooling tensions just in time for Fourth of July celebrations.

The agreement aimed to keep things quiet for US and Iran technical teams negotiating indirectly with one another in Qatar, a US official confirmed to The Post.

The deal has the added benefit of taking down the temperature as the US prepares for America's 250th birthday and Iran holds funeral ceremonies for slain Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei on Friday, Saturday and Monday.

The temporary calm comes even as Washington and Tehran remain locked in a fresh dispute over who ultimately controls shipping through the strategic waterway. Conflict in the strait ratcheted up after Iran struck a ship sailing near Oman last week and the US retaliated with fresh attacks on Iranian missile and drone storage locations along the strait.

Iran has continued to insist it has the authority to regulate traffic through the strait and has demanded the right to impose transit fees after the current interim arrangements expire, while the Trump administration has rejected any Iranian claim over what it says is an international waterway.

Two interpretations

Those competing stances have emerged as one of the biggest sticking points in broader negotiations, with US officials pressing Tehran to abandon its demands in exchange for the economic benefits of a wider agreement.

The US-Iran memorandum of understanding states that Iran will work with Oman to "define the future administration and maritime services in the Strait of Hormuz in discussions with other Persian Gulf Littoral States," but Tehran and Washington have differing interpretations on what that means.

While senior US officials have said that point in the MOU prevents Iran from charging fees, Iran sees the passage more as a general suggestion that they talk with relevant parties, and that the strait is recognized as its sovereign waters.

"In the final moments of the negotiations, the text of the memorandum of understanding was amended to clearly and explicitly emphasize the issue of the Iranian-Omani sovereignty over the Strait of Hormuz," Fars News reported Monday.

caitlin.doornbos@nypost.com

Fight, don't talk: hawk

President Trump shouldn't waste time chasing a final Iran deal, and instead prepare Americans for resuming military operations, retired Lt. Gen. Keith Kellogg told The Post.

"[We should be telling Americans] the fight's not over. It's going to take a day or two; buckle up," Kellogg, a former Trump adviser, said Wednesday. "The American people are great about that . . . if they explain it to them, they'll understand it."

Kellogg says if the 60-day US-Iran talks fail, the administration should consider taking Kharg Island, the critically important energy hub in the Persian Gulf. *Caitlin Doornbos*

‘TERROR’ MOMMY

‘A MOTHER’S HATE’: Catherine Beth Washburn was busted after the mom of two allegedly turned into an antisemitic Islamic extremist (above) and gave $30,000 to the Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

DOJ; Facebook

Radicalized upstater ‘funded jihad’: feds

By PRISCILLA DeGREGORY
and XAVIER SERRANO

A middle-class upstate mom has been charged with allegedly supporting an Islamic terrorist organization after donating $30,000 in cryptocurrency to the violent, antisemitic group, federal prosecutors announced Wednesday.

Catherine Beth Washburn, 37, a self-proclaimed stay-at-home mom, according to her Facebook account, exchanged messages with a terrorist in the Palestinian Islamic Jihad group in Gaza, once telling him “I wish every day were October 7,” according to prosecutors in the Western District of New York.

Washburn, who is from Irondequoit, just outside of Rochester, is the alleged leader of an extremist group that formed in the wake of Hamas’ attack on Israel in 2023, the feds said.

The anti-Israel group, called the Direct Action Movement for Palestinian Liberation, rejects peaceful protests and encourages sabotage and property destruction, according to prosecutors.

‘Excited at killing’

Old media photos show Washburn as a mother of two children, smiling with her husband. She lived in a $280,000, three-bedroom house and appears to have spent significant time in the small town of Dansville.

However, her social media accounts are now filled with pictures of her wearing a hijab and anti-Israel diatribes — including one post showing the home addresses of “Zionists.”

It’s unclear whether she converted to Islam or exactly when she allegedly became radicalized.

In her messages with the PIJ fighter, Washburn allegedly said, “If I lived in Gaza, I would fight alongside the resistance.”

She also said she hated Jews “very much” and wished Israel “would disappear,” the feds claimed.

“I feel excited every time I see news of the killing of an occupation soldier,” she said, referring to Israeli soldiers.

Washburn then sent the fighter a total of $30,000 in cryptocurrency through 80 separate transfers, the feds alleged.

And in a November 2025 message, she predicted she would face hard time for her involvement with the group.

“Based on my passed [sic] fundraising and posting Im [sic] gonna get put away for a few life times,” she wrote adding a laughing emoji, the feds claimed.

Washburn also took a selfie and placed the image next to the Hamas flag and two hand grenades, prosecutors claimed.

Held without bail

She is charged with one count of attempting to provide material support and resources to a designated foreign terrorist organization. She faces up to 20 years behind bars if convicted.

Washburn appeared in federal court in Buffalo on Wednesday and was held without bail.

“This defendant, fueled by her self-described hate of Israel and Jewish people, went to great lengths to attempt to provide financial support to terrorist organizations that use violence to further their agendas, including the Palestine Islamic Jihad,” US Attorney Michael DiGiacomo for the Western District of New York said in a statement.

“Despite her alleged attempts, including cryptic communications with a fighter involved in violent attacks in an area thousands of miles away, Catherine Washburn was stopped and so too were her efforts to support violent extremism.”

Washburn’s criminal defense attorney didn’t return a request for comment Wednesday afternoon.

pdegregory@nypost.com

Fla. dad thought he dropped off tragic tot at daycare

A Florida toddler was found dead after his father mistakenly thought he dropped his son off at daycare, only to make the horrifying discovery hours later that he had left the toddler inside his sweltering car.

First responders were called to the early childhood education center, A World of Discovery Academy, in Plantation on Monday at around 5:30 p.m. after receiving a “report of a deceased child in a vehicle,” Plantation police posted on X. “Upon arrival, Plantation Fire Department sadly confirmed the child was deceased,” police said.

Leslie Novoa, the academy’s director, told the South Florida Sun Sentinel the victim was an 18-month-old boy.

Novoa told the outlet that the boy’s father was supposed to drop him off at school that morning.

When the father returned in the afternoon to pick up his son, he realized the child had never been dropped off. *Richard Pollina*

Jersey's hou$e party

Asked:
$1.79M
Got:
$2.27M
42

Asked:
$998,999
Got:
$1.3M

Keller Williams Realty

MILLION-DOLLAR MARKET: New Jersey homes on Euclid Avenue in Maplewood (left) and Melrose Place in South Orange went for big bucks.

State's suburb prices soaring

By MARY K. JACOB

New Jersey's suburban gold rush has no ceiling in sight, and buyers are paying whatever it takes.

The home at 42 Euclid Ave. in Maplewood hit the market at $1.795 million. It sold for $2.279 million, a staggering 27% above ask. Down the road in South Orange, 376 Melrose Place listed for $998,999 and closed at $1.332 million, a 33% premium.

These aren't outliers. They're the new normal across a stretch of Essex and Union County suburbs where inventory has all but evaporated and buyers are throwing caution, and hundreds of thousands of dollars, to the wind.

Maplewood, South Orange and Montclair are leading the charge, with homes across the region averaging double-digit percentages over asking price and spending under two weeks on the market before going under contract.

The numbers tell the story, weekly market data compiled by Mark Slade of Keller Williams Midtown Direct Realty show.

Maplewood's average sale price sits at $1.34 million as of late June, with buyers paying 15.6% over ask. South Orange isn't far behind at 16.2% over asking with an average sale price topping $1.27 million. Montclair, meanwhile, is running the hottest of the bunch, with buyers paying nearly 25% over list.

'Dramatic changes'

Slade, who has tracked these markets since becoming a realtor in 2009, says the upward march has been remarkably steady.

"I don't think I've ever seen a down-trending year in Maplewood, South Orange or Montclair," he told The Post, adding that the last several years in particular have brought "dramatic changes in the performance of the market."

The pandemic supercharged an existing trend, according to Slade, who traces the appeal of these towns back to 1997, two years after Midtown Direct train service began running straight into Penn Station without a transfer in Hoboken.

"That's when we started to see some movement, some significant movement and attraction to the area," he said.

Slade calls what's happening now "value convergence equilibrium" — a theory built on the idea that Northern New Jersey buyers are catching up to what Westchester and Long Island commuters have paid for decades.

"What we now see is that more and more people as buyers, are recognizing that with their economics, they can afford more house for less money in Northern New Jersey," he said.

The buyers driving this frenzy aren't only fleeing Manhattan. Slade says most are also coming from Brooklyn, Hoboken and Queens, current apartment dwellers looking to trade up.

"Northern New Jersey offers some of the best values as much as it may seem crazy for someone like me watching these prices grow by leaps and bounds," he said. "It's still a better value if you're looking for a 45 minute and under commute to the city."

Demand climbs

Basic economics explains the rest. Supply simply hasn't kept pace. Slade points to Maplewood, a town of 25,000 residents with more than 5,500 single-family homes, yet only a couple dozen actively listed at any given time.

He tracks a metric he calls a "hypermarket," where the number of homes under contract nearly doubles the number of active listings, a ratio he considers more telling than the traditional six-month absorption rate used across the industry.

The demand has changed the character of these towns, longtime residents complain.

Slade says he's heard grumbling that the small-town feel is being "supplanted by more New York, impatient, higher-end buyers."

He offered an only half joking anecdote about downtown Maplewood's diagonal parking spots, where illegal U-turns into spaces happen constantly despite signage every 30 feet.

"I think that today's buyers are much more affluent," he said. "They're even more time-pressed, so to speak, which is why they're choosing these areas to live for the more manageable commutes."

Township meetings haven't been immune to the anxiety. After a record-breaking sale in Maplewood's Hilton neighborhood last year, Slade recalls committee members raising concerns at the next public meeting about what runaway prices mean for longtime residents. Still, he sees the appreciation as a feature, not a bug, of homeownership.

"This," he said, "is what real estate is all about."

Senior slugged by young stranger in Bronx dies

A 62-year-old Queens man died weeks after a much-younger stranger brutally punched him during a Bronx brawl — leaving him with a gash on his head, authorities and sources said Wednesday.

Ming Zhang was punched during a fight with Carlos Valentin, 27, around 8:25 p.m. on June 12 in front of a rental building on Walton Avenue near East Mount Eden Avenue in the Concourse neighborhood, according to cops and law enforcement sources.

The melee left him with a cut on his head, police said.

He was rushed to Lincoln Medical Center, where he was initially listed in critical condition but died on Tuesday, cops said.

Valentin, who was not known to the victim, was arrested and charged with attempted murder, police said.

The NYPD and the Bronx DA's office are conferring to determine if charges will be upgraded, police said.

It was not immediately clear what sparked the clash.

Joe Marino and Amanda Woods

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Tay nets Knicks for nups

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THEY'RE going to be celebrating at Madison Square Garden for the second time in three weeks.

A source tells us that **Taylor Swift** and **Travis Kelce** have invited "the starting lineup for the Knicks," including **Jalen Brunson**, to their wedding bash tomorrow.

Swift and her pals started a trend of T-shirts with Knick name puns — that The Post happily got on board with — when she attended Game 4 of the NBA Finals at the Garden to watch the Knicks win in a history-making comeback.

Swift yelled so loud during the game that she could barely recite her Songwriters Hall of Fame induction speech the following night.

"The quality of my speaking voice is the product of [something] that I am not sorry for . . . I was lucky enough to go to a Knicks game last night," she said of her raspy tone after **Steven Spielberg** presented her with the honor. "I screamed for 100% of it. And then I got home and was like, 'I gotta stop screaming,'" she quipped.

An insider told us at the time that Swift attended the game because "she's a huge fan of the Knicks and really wants to be there to support them." And now they may be there supporting her nuptials and partying until the wee hours with the couple come tomorrow, we hear.

Josh Hart, **Mikal Bridges**, **OG Anunoby**, **Karl-Anthony Towns** and Brunson join the more than 1,000 guests who are invited to what's sure to be the wedding of the summer. It's unclear if they accepted.

They would be joining **Selena Gomez**, **Mariska Hargitay**, **Gigi Hadid**, **Suki Waterhouse** and several of Kelce's Kansas City Chiefs teammates, who are all expected for the multiday New York celebration.

Brunson would have friends at the fête. As we've previously reported, Hargitay and the point guard have become close pals since he joined the team in 2022, with Brunson going to see her Broadway show last week.

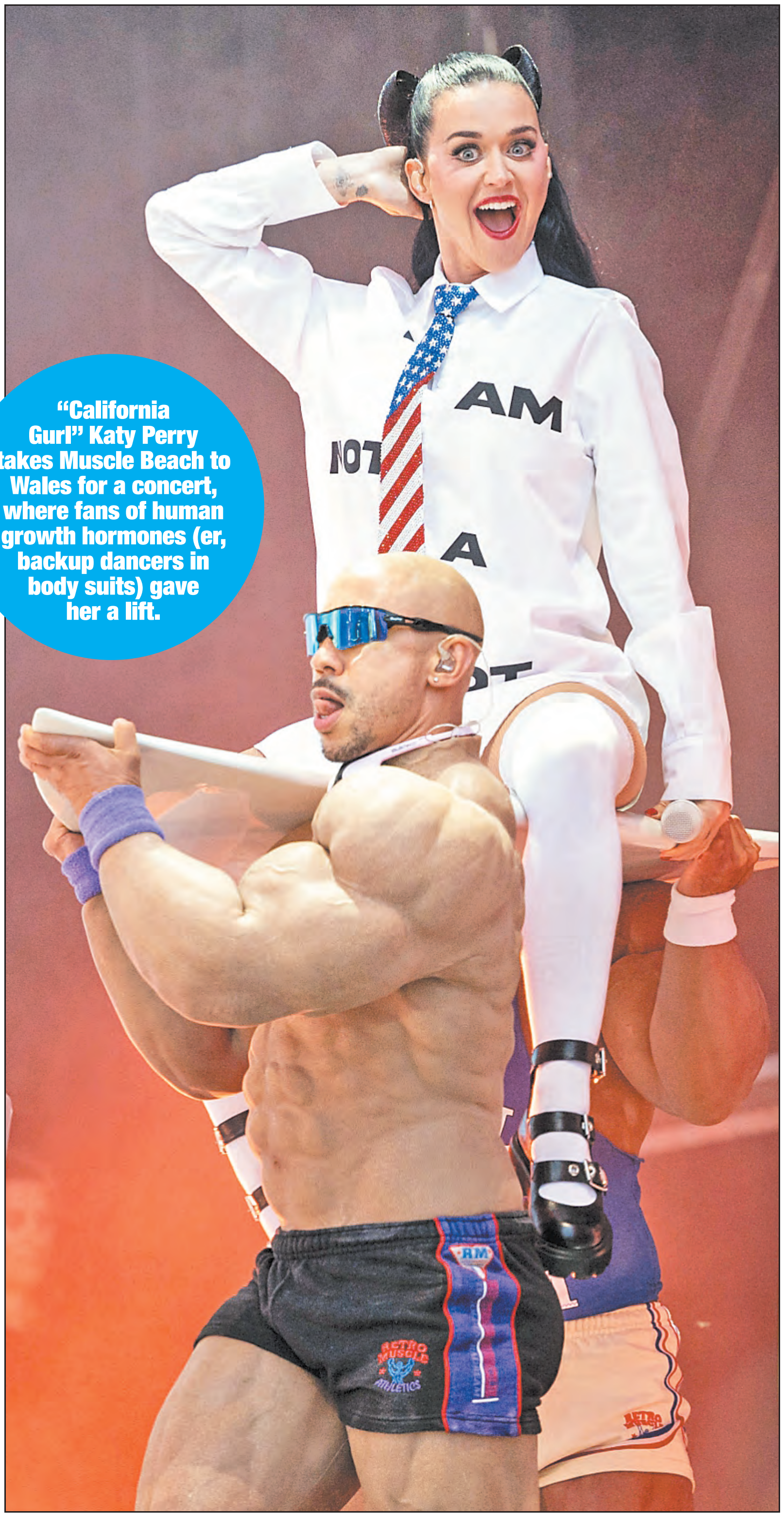
Reps did not comment.

World Cup bandit

PAGE Six has learned that animal control had to come to Rockefeller Center after a racoon built a home in the lighting rig of the landmark's World Cup "fan village." The critter has been dubbed Auston Trashy, after Team USA defender **Auston Trusty**, who scored in the team's match against Turkey. When contacted for comment after the ring-tailed resident started popping up on social media, **Bentley Meeker** — the lighting guru creating the illumination and sound for the installation — told Page Six: "We have offered [him] a job because he is such a good climber." The fan village opens to the public on July 6 and will be up until the end of the tournament on July 19.

'Family' reunion

LOOKS like **Tom Hardy**'s "MobLand" character won't be swimming with the fishes after all. The actor (above) has reportedly settled his beef with producers and is "back in the fold" for a potential third season of the hit Paramount+ series, per the Hollywood Reporter. The outlet says Hardy recently met with show brass including **Jez Butterworth** and **Guy Ritchie** in London to mend fences following reports of on-set clashes while filming Season 2. The show is aiming to start production in the fall. Hardy and the network didn't get back to us.

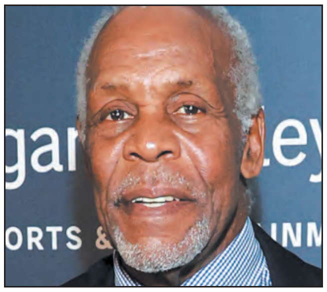


"California Gurl" Katy Perry takes Muscle Beach to Wales for a concert, where fans of human growth hormones (er, backup dancers in body suits) gave her a lift.

James Watkins / BACKGRID

Record highs

O, say can you ABC! If you happened to see some fighter jets whizzing over the Statue of Liberty last night, you can thank ABC News for the spectacle, Page Six hears. As part of the network's coverage of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, ABC worked with the French authorities to arrange a spectacle featuring planes and a light show around Lady Liberty. (Needless to say, the statue was a gift from France to the US.) "World News Tonight" anchor **David Muir** climbed to the top of the torch for an "immersive story on the monument's history and resonance," insiders tell Page Six. The feature is part of the network's "Disney Celebrates America," a "24-hour multiplatform broadcast" that starts tomorrow night at 10. Muir's section airs tomorrow, with his "20/20" co-anchor **Deborah Roberts** joining the Patrouille de France of the French air and space force for a flyover during an artistic illumination dubbed "Liberty Lights."



Dementia disclosed

DANNY Glover has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. "I could live with it, in a sense," the "Lethal Weapon" star (above), who received his diagnosis in 2022, told **Lester Holt** in a pre-taped sit-down for the "Today" show. But the 79-year-old acknowledged, "I'm sure as it advances, things are going to be different and changing." Glover's daughter, **Mandisa**, 50, told Holt the family is revealing the news because it's "really important" for her father to have "control of his own narrative, of his own life story." She added, "I don't want to be a dishonest person and say, 'Oh, yeah, everything is all right. It's all great.'" Reflecting on his legacy, lifelong activist Glover said, "Justice is our collective responsibility."

Breezy chomped for $13M

CHRIS Brown was ordered to pay his former housekeeper $13 million after she was brutally attacked by his 200-pound dog in 2020. **Maria Avila** won her lawsuit against the singer, whom she accused of negligence when his Caucasian shepherd ripped out "large chunks of her skin" and deformed her face at his Tarzana, Calif., home, Billboard reported. Avila, who was taking out the trash when she was attacked, also suffered an arm injury and now has mobility issues. Avila's husband, **Oscar Olivo**, and her sister, **Patricia**, were awarded $50,000 and $885,000, respectively, as they were also working when the attack occurred. According to the BBC, Brown, 37, testified in court that he found Avila motionless in "a lot of blood" after being mauled. "The blood kind of freaked me out," he told the jury, admitting that he left the scene before first responders arrived on the alleged advice of his manager to avoid a media frenzy. The hitmaker also argued Avila was warned about the dogs and told to go outside only when escorted by security. A rep for Brown couldn't be reached.

email us:
tips
@PageSix.com

Proud as punch

DING ding — seconds out for decade seven! **Mike Tyson** turned 60 this week, and celebrated New York-style, we hear. The champ caught the closing night of the off-Broadway comedy "Silverback Mountain," and then treated the cast to Mr. Chow in Midtown, we're told. Tyson's pal **Mickey Gooch Jr**. stars in and wrote the play. A source told Page Six that waiters at the legendary Chinese restaurant serenaded Tyson at his table with "Happy Birthday." Our source described the evening as a "genuinely personal affair: a friend showing up for a friend on his last night, and a birthday spent among people who clearly mean something to the man who once ruled the world."

Sightings

LEIGH Lezark of the Misshapes, designer **Timo Weiland** and drag queen **Gottmik** performing at the Pride Oasis x Loop Earplugs event at Gitano in front of **Christian Siriano**, **Honey Balenciaga**, **Sophia Lamar**, **Julia Fox**, **Adam Lambert** and "Real Housewives of Salt Lake City" star **Bronwyn Newport** . . . **TAN France**, **Matt James** and **Tinx** at GQ and Carbone's party at ZZ's Club.

More celebrity photos at PageSix.com

Christopher Peterson/SplashNews.com

Filming thriller "Tyrant" in the Bowery is serious business for **Julia Garner**.

'Summer' lovin' after all

AVA Dash is playing coy about her relationship status after she and "Summer House" star **Kyle Cooke** were caught locking lips in the Hamptons over the weekend. "We were having a good time," the "Next Gen NYC" star, 26, said in an exclusive interview with Page Six's "Virtual Reali-Tea." When asked if she would be open to more of that "good time" with the DJ, Dash said only, "I'm open to having a really great summer, and I'm having a really great summer. I just want to have fun." As Page Six exclusively reported, a spy caught Cooke and Dash "kissing openly" at the Palm Tree Music Festival in Southampton. The PDA came as a surprise to fans, considering Cooke, 43, denied any relationship with **Damon Dash**'s daughter back in March. They were first romantically linked that month when they were caught holding hands at a dinner — but at the time Cooke insisted on "Watch What Happens Live," "We were at a family dinner doing a family blessing, holding hands, so I was holding her [hand]."

Concert odds a Lil risky

DOES **Lil Wayne** ever actually make it to the stage? News that the "A Milli" rapper skipped his own performance at the Bangor Waterfront in Bangor, Maine, Tuesday night brings to mind a few other notable no-shows. One came in 2017 when we reported that Wayne wouldn't go onstage in South Carolina because to do so would have required him to go through a metal detector. Another was in 2023 when he was supposed to be a special guest at a **50 Cent** show in Los Angeles, but stormed out after someone shoved him backstage.

Christopher Peterson/SplashNews.com

Anne Hathaway is crushing maternity fashion in crushed velvet — despite the heat! — at the Four Seasons in Tribeca while on a press journey befitting her film "The Odyssey."

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Mexican-born to Bush cabinet

American Dreamers

Through July 4, The Post, in conjunction with the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream, is featuring US citizens explaining what the American dream means to them in 2026 — including Rosario Marin, the 41st treasurer of the United States. Marin, who served in the role under President George W. Bush from 2001 to 2003, is the only foreign-born treasurer in the history of our country.

THE American Dream — it's an idea, it's this amazing idea that is really true.

I was born in Mexico City. I thought we were fine. It was when we came here that I realized, "Oh my goodness, we were really, really poor." And that is the reason why we came to this country — to seek a better opportunity.

And I knew that the only way to get that opportunity and to take advantage of that opportunity was through education. I went to high school, and when I graduated, I didn't even attend the graduation. Then I got my bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in marketing and international business.

Little did I know that life would take a different turn and eventually I would become treasurer of the United States.

You will overcome

Oliver Wendell Holmes, the Supreme Court Justice of the United States, used this phrase that I love: "What lies behind you and what lies ahead of you is minute in relation to what lies within you." I have taken that to heart.

No matter what has happened in your life, no matter how difficult things have been, you're bigger because you're here now. And no matter what is before you, you're bigger than that, too. You will overcome and you will rise again.

That's been my life.

To think of what is possible — that a 14-year-old immigrant child who couldn't even speak English when she arrived [in America], can become the 41st treasure of the United States — that is the American dream.

If you work hard, that if you believe, no matter how difficult it may seem, you can reach unimaginable dreams. Look at me.

The American Dream Video Project showcases real stories that illuminate pathways to opportunity. Featured at the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream (MCAAD), this series is part of the Center's celebration of America's 250th anniversary. For more information, visit mcaad.org.

Virginia hiker's body found

The body of a Virginia teacher who went missing in the Andes mountains more than a month ago has been found, the broken-hearted family announced.

Ian Treger's remains were found near a trail the 29-year-old from Lexington had planned to hike — after vanishing in the Peruvian city of Cusco on May 13.

"It is with profound sadness that we share that Ian's body has been found in Peru," the family posted.

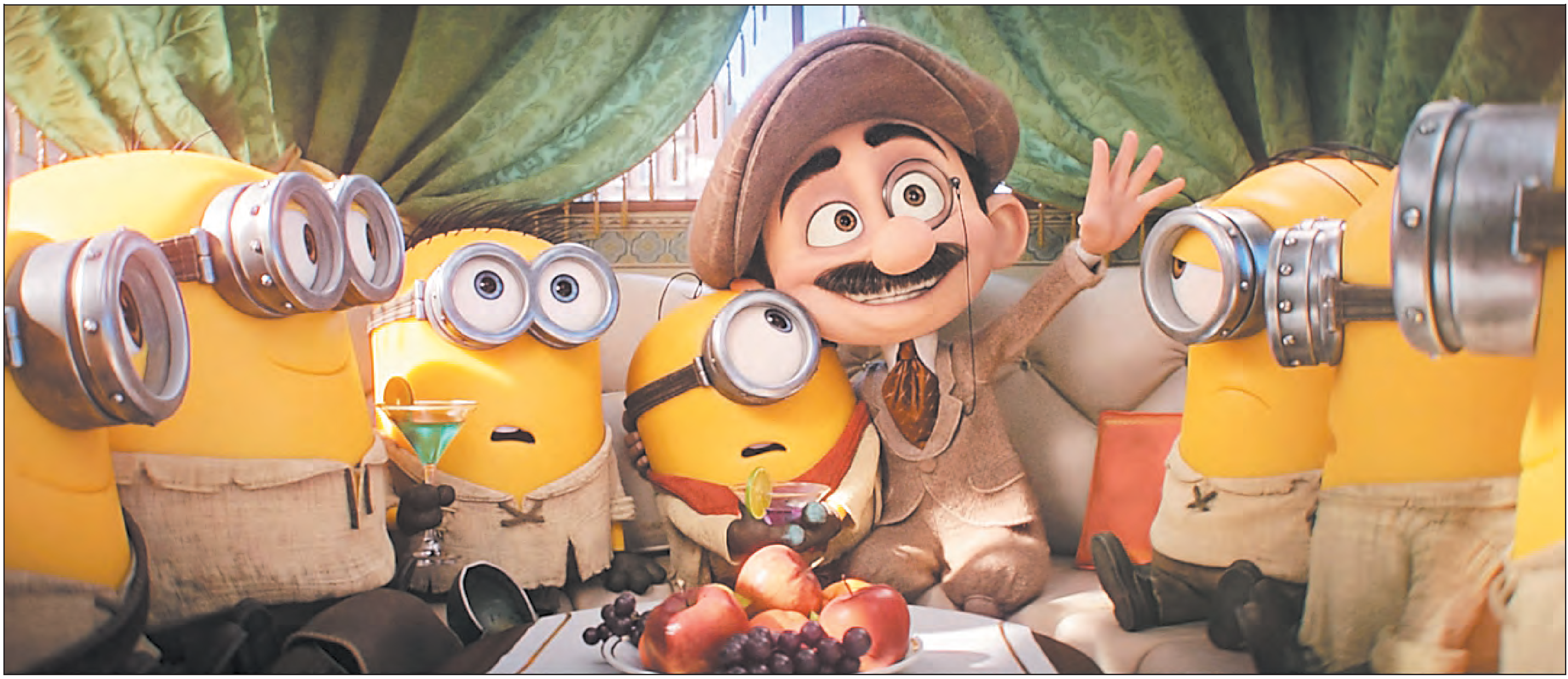
"Our hearts are broken, and we are still absorbing this devastating loss."

His devastated mother, Michelle Ludwig, said Wednesday "a shepherd who works the field with his alpacas" found her son, according to the Daily Mail.

"I don't understand how this could've happened. He was a very capable hiker and is used to high-altitude trails." *Ella Morrison*

Cindy Adams is off barbecuing Mamdani. She shall return.

Hollywood homage fit for cinephiles & kids



Universal/Courtesy Everett Collection

LEAD ROLE: The Minions are discovered by 1920s filmmaker Max, voiced by Christoph Waltz, and become stars of Old Hollywood in their third spinoff film, "Minions & Monsters."

Johnny Oleksinski

MOVIE REVIEW

MINIONS ARE MASTERFUL

MINIONS & MONSTERS

Running time: 89 minutes. Rated PG (violence, action, language and rude/macabre humor). In theaters..

★★★½

ONE of the best odes to Old Hollywood in a long time comes courtesy of . . . the Minions?

Yes, somehow the funny yellow Tic-Tacs, who heretofore clumsily served supervillains, are leading a smart and detailed tribute to Georges Méliès, Orson Welles, Boris Karloff, "Casablanca" and countless other pieces of movie-making history called "Minions & Monsters."

Improbably this fantastic animated kids movie, sure to be a highlight of the summer, is an adult cinephile's dream.

It doesn't make a lick of sense. It also makes a ton of sense.

Because years ago, French director Pierre Coffin, who co-created the talking Tylenols in 2010's "Despicable Me," realized that the real scene stealer wasn't Steve Carell's baddie Gru, but rather his pellet-shaped henchmen who speak in European gibberish.

I unabashedly love the Minions. They are never less than hilarious, and they are much more colorful and creative than most of what Pixar and DreamWorks are churning out.

You could put them in pretty much anything, like Stanley Tucci. Come to think of it, they bear a striking resemblance to Stanley Tucci.

And that's what Coffin has done with "Monsters," which is their finest hour . . . and 30 minutes. He's plopped 'em far away from "Despicable Me" in the 1920s Golden Age of Hollywood, with its bustling sound stages, eccentric personalities and the monolithic studio system.

They are discovered a la Marilyn Monroe by a director named Max (Christoph Waltz), who wears a monocle like Erich von Stroheim.

Right away, they're the toast of the town. "The biggest stars the world has ever seen," proclaims Max. They appear in such hit films as "The Good, the Bad and the Stupids."

But, like tiny Norma Desmonds, their careers are destroyed with the advent of cinematic sound — aka "the talkies" — and they are unceremoniously given the boot. Can you believe this plot? Incredible.

The main Minions this time are Henry and James, creative rebels who are more concerned with art than villainy. James sketches storyboards in a notebook and longs to be an Oscar-winning director. To save his friends, James concocts "Minions y Monstras," a Hollywood horror blockbuster. However, he'll need to recruit frightening creatures.

'No longer evil'

Most of the movie is in Minionese. With just a sprinkle of English, it's practically a foreign film like "Sentimental Value." Only enjoyable.

Nobody can compete with the crowd-pleasing scamps, of course, however there are some amusing non-Minions.

"South Park's" Trey Parker voices Goomi, a tiny tentacled creature who helps the guys hunt down terrifying beasts. When he approaches two fearsome titans, Goomi gets one of the film's funniest lines:

"We are no longer evil," he announces. "We work in the motion picture industry."

Andy's pal on $$ hook and *not* us

ALBANY — Taxpayers are off the hook for more than $700,000 in legal bills for former Gov. Andrew Cuomo's close confidant Melissa DeRosa, a judge ruled Wednesday.

Albany County Supreme Court Judge Danielle Jose-Decker slapped down DeRosa and her high-powered legal team's attempt to reverse a decision by the state comptroller's office's not to reimburse her for the fees, which were racked up after she was dismissed from a sexual harassment case against her and Cuomo by an anonymous state trooper.

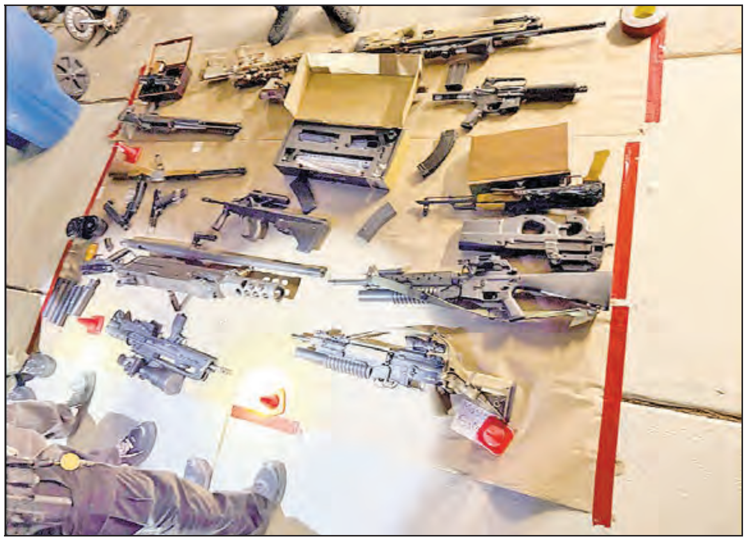
"Any argument that the dismissal could have been reversed in the future and they therefore had to continue representing is speculative and remote," Jose-Decker wrote in her ruling.

Morvillo Abramowitz Grand Iason & Anello has been paid just over $1 million to represent DeRosa in the Trooper 1 lawsuit, and those of Cuomo's various investigations and ongoing legal battles have cost taxpayers more than $60 million overall.

"As a direct result of the attorney general's fatally flawed report, a public servant was sued baselessly and dragged through litigation for years — Ms. DeRosa was rightly dismissed from Trooper #1's blatant attempt at a money grab, but the Court's decision is not consistent with the law or past precedent," DeRosa's attorney, Catherine Foti, wrote in a statement to The Post. "We look forward to this decision being overturned on appeal," she added.

Vaughn Golden

TRANS GUN NUT BUST



Planned massacre in Las Vegas: cops

KSNV: Las Vegas Police

WELL ARMED: Allison Howlett makes a remote court appearance Wednesday (above). She was charged with multiple counts after police found two guns in a car she allegedly stole and 30 more (far left) in her Nevada home.

By BEN CHAPMAN

Las Vegas cops busted an armed transgender woman who allegedly planned a casino massacre using a huge cache of weapons.

Allison Howlett, 36, who was born male but lives as a woman, was arrested Saturday on charges of making terroristic threats, assault with a deadly weapon, auto theft, gun theft and other offenses.

The wild story unfolded shortly after 9:30 a.m. Saturday when Howlett's former spouse, who is female, called police to report he had stolen her car and the vehicle held numerous firearms, Henderson Police Chief Reggie Rader said Tuesday.

She said Howlett intended to commit "suicide by cop" or carry out a mass shooting, Radar said.

The ex was tracking her stolen car on her phone and led cops to where it was parked in a garage at Sunset Station Hotel and Casino, the top cop said.

As officers approached the vehicle, Howlett blasted music over the car's stereo and refused commands to exit. She did, however, ask cops for a drink of water.

Video of the of the ensuring interaction shows officers surrounding the vehicle and then dragging Howlett out as she reaches for a bottle of water offered by the cops.

'Ow, OK, I'll get out!'

"Officers were eventually able to establish communication and convince her to roll down her window during negotiations," said Rader.

"When she asked for water, the quick-thinking officers developed a plan to take her into custody as an opportunity arose when she reached for the water," he explained. "Officers used that moment to gain control of her hands and remove her from the vehicle."

"Ow, OK, I'll get out!" said Howlett as an officer grabbed one of his hands. Rader said cops stunned Howlett with a Taser while she was being taken into custody.

The officers were shocked to see Howlett had been sitting on a handgun and had an MP5 submachine gun in the back seat.

When police searched the car, they recovered 22 other guns and hundreds of rounds of ammunition.

Cops who searched the suspect's home in Henderson found 30 more firearms, including automatic rifles, plus ammo, grenade launcher attachments and silencers.

Officers said Howlett made several threats going back years, including a 2024 phonecall in which she threatened a mass shooting.

"I swear to God, if the FBI doesn't come f--king arrest me, there's gonna be a f--king mass shooting," Howlett said in a recording of the call played at Tuesday's briefing.

"There's one day you're gonna be pissing me the f--k off, and it's gonna be the last f--king straw," he added.

Police said investigators are still searching for a motive.

Howlett remained in custody at the Clark County Detention Center Wednesday morning.

She was pictured in a still during a remote court appearance. A judge set her bail at $500,000 during the appearance.

Deport rapist, says vic's dad

The furious dad of a 14-year-old boy raped by a trans illegal immigrant inside a Manhattan bodega bathroom wants the creep deported — especially after the fiend cut a sweetheart plea deal.

Rapist Nicol Alexandra Contreras-Suarez, a 31-year-old migrant from South America who admitted to raping the teen across from Thomas Jefferson Park in 2025, is now being hauled to Massachusetts to face criminal charges there, authorities said.

The young victim's dad said the creep should never go free.

"The defendant is an immigrant from Colombia . . . and chose to commit this crime of rape," he said. "I am hoping and praying that the defendant is deported back to the defendant's country and not allowed back."

Contreras-Suarez (right) pleaded guilty to second-degree rape in March in exchange for a light six-month sentence — worked out with the victim's family so the traumatized teen would not have to testify.

Jordan Donegan and Jorge Fitz-Gibbon

Ma bust in tot twin slayings

A deranged Idaho mom who claimed her twins died over a year ago of "vaccine injuries" has now been charged in her children's killings, according to authorities and reports.

Andrea Shaw, 23, was indicted by a grand jury on two counts of first-degree murder Monday in connection with the deaths of her 18-month-old twins, Dallas and Tyson, in May 2025, according to the Payette Police Department.

Shaw's toddlers were discovered dead in their shared bed in Northgate Mobile Park, sparking police to launch a homicide investigation.

The mom appeared on a podcast with her husband, Nathaniel Shaw, in the days after the brother and sister were allegedly murdered, claiming vaccines were responsible for their deaths.

Shaw told the podcast — hosted by the anti-vaccine nonprofit Children's Health Defense, previously chaired by Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F Kennedy Jr. — that the twins' health took a turn for the worse after they received the flu, Hepatitis A and DTaP vaccines.

Shaw said her husband's side of the family "all have bad reactions or are allergic to the flu shot." *Zoe Hussain*

B'klyn fam rage slay

A 24-year-old woman was found fatally shot inside her Brooklyn home in what appears to be a domestic incident, police said Wednesday.

Tatiana Pettus was discovered with a mortal gunshot wound to the neck inside a bedroom when police responded to a 911 call at around 11:25 p.m. Tuesday at her apartment on Foster Avenue near East 29th Street in Flatbush, police said.

She was taken to the Kings County Hospital Center, where she was pronounced dead, police said.

It is unclear who made the 911, cops said.

Amanda Woods

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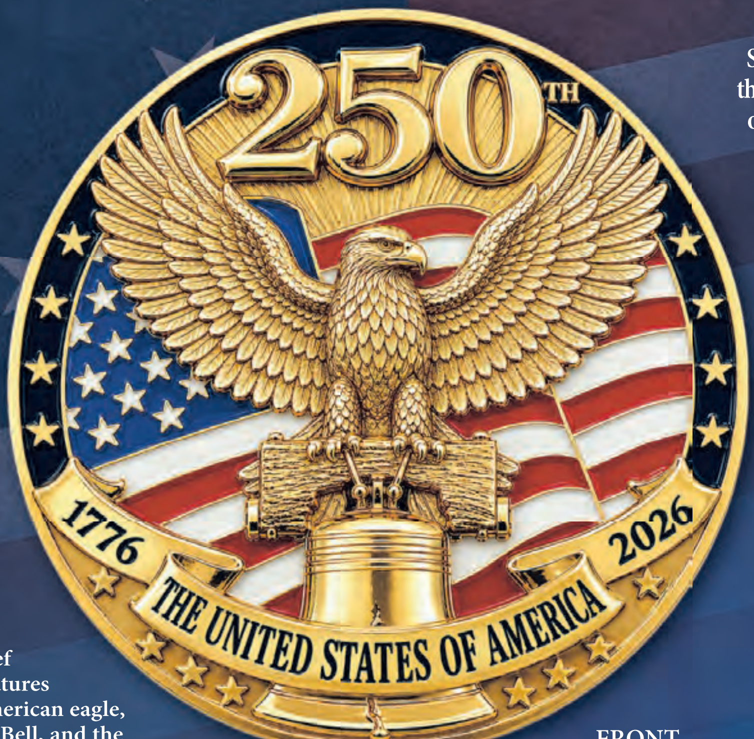

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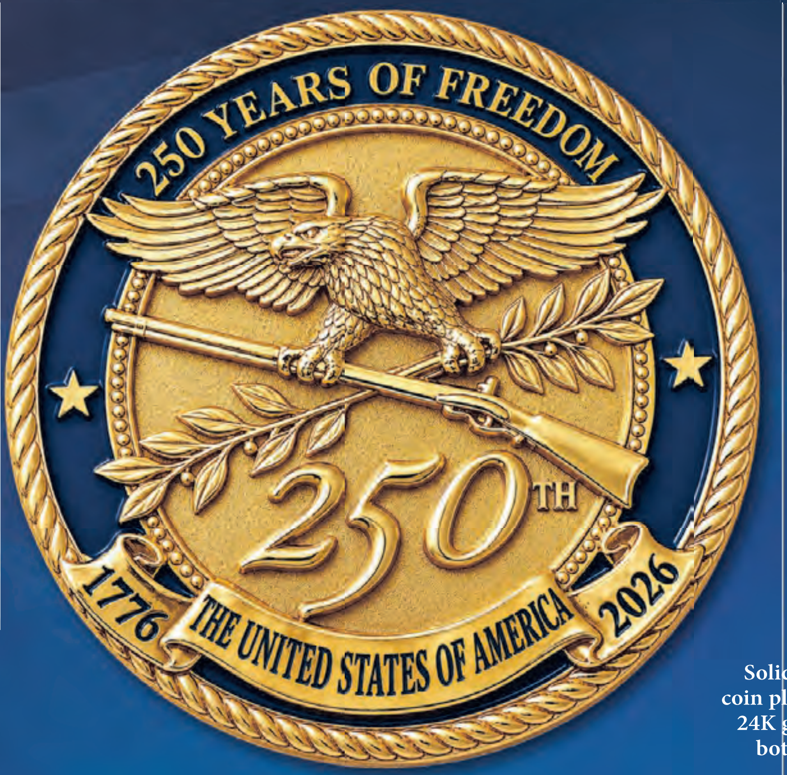

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Fund US data center foes: report

China’s dirty li’l AI war

Getty

DATA SCUM: Jodie Evans takes a stand with Neville Singham, a leader in China’s push to stop US data centers like one in Oregon (below).

LYDIA MOYNIHAN

CHINA is way behind the US in the AI arms race, but has no qualms about playing dirty to try and gain an upper hand.

According to a new report, Chinese Communist Party-linked backers are helping push anti-AI sentiment, which threatens to halt more than $20 billion in energy and infrastructure investment needed to power the AI data boom.

Even more alarmingly, Americans are helping them do it.

While Silicon Valley is focused on hiring the best engineers and talent, an equally important battle is already starting to be lost at suburban zoning hearings, county commission meetings and town-hall protests against building new data centers.

“A lot of people think that this is a choice between AI or no AI . . . it’s actually a choice between American AI or Chinese AI,” Sam Lyman, who authored the study by the Bitcoin Policy Institute, said. “Who controls AI will control the information layer of the global economy.”

In recent months, the issue has gotten alarming enough that members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee Brett Guthrie, John Joyce and Bob Latta are asking the White House and FBI to examine whether foreign adversaries are fueling anti-data-center activism.

The Bitcoin Policy Institute report warns America’s adversaries are doing everything in their power to limit us.

It claims the China-linked network of Marxist activist Neville Singham and the Party for Socialism and Liberation have inserted themselves into local fights across 14 states. Their efforts have helped stall or block at least $23.6 billion in proposed data center investment through funding rallies, petitions, door-knocking campaigns and packing public hearings.

Their efforts have resulted in 10 local moratoria, one permanent ban in Monterey Park, Calif., and four rejected or scrapped projects — including a $1 billion proposal by Google in Indiana and a $12 billion Blackstone-backed data center in Wisconsin, the report claims.

The report says the organizing push remains active in Cleveland, New Orleans, Milwaukee and Prichard, Ala.

To be sure, there are legitimate concerns about data centers — they are without a doubt ugly and utilitarian. And it’s fair to express opposition to and push against one next to your home.

‘Patently false’ data

But that outrage has gotten a little extreme, and while Lyman acknowledges the real frustration, he notes how it is being fueled by fake news and bad information.

“A lot of the talking points that get people riled up are patently false, especially about water usage,” he said, adding that some claims about data-center water consumption have been overstated “by about 1,000 times”

He also claims Singham, who is an American, born in Connecticut, and the Party for Socialism and Liberation — whose leadership overlaps with executives from Singham-funded nonprofits including The People’s Forum, BreakThrough News and the ANSWER Coalition — are relying on a well-worn playbook to exploit people’s fears and frustration.

“He has this same play for pretty much every wedge issue in America,” Lyman told me, referring to any divisive issue that can be used to drive a wedge between groups of people to divide them.

“Identify the wedge issue to latch on to it, and then he’ll stoke even greater division and anger using that wedge issue as fuel.”

In recent years groups, including those linked to Singham, have tried to fuel an anti-American tech narrative — attacking Big Tech, cheering China’s ability to evade US export controls and, more recently, turning AI data centers into the next villain in their war against American corporate power.

By mid-2025, PSL’s publication was tying data centers to higher electric bills and environmental damage. In 2026, it has been calling the nationwide fight over AI data centers “a struggle for who controls the future.”

While we know Singham has poured nearly $300 million into his socialist projects in the US, when it comes to funding for PSL, it’s difficult to trace where the money is coming.

“The most disturbing revelation to me was the black box that is PSL’s funding,” Lyman said.

It doesn’t matter how much we innovate if the energy and the data centers necessary to scale are standing in the way.

It is an important reminder we can’t be naive — foreign adversaries are willing to do whatever it takes to prevent America from winning. We must do it anyway.

MELANIA TRUMP
“Protect” female athletes.

Melania lauds girl sport rule

Melania Trump made a rare statement on a Supreme Court ruling, praising the high court for upholding a West Virginia law that restricted transgender females from taking part in girls’ and women’s sports.

“As many of you may know, I fully support the LGBTQIA+ community. But we must also ensure that our female athletes are protected and respected,” the first lady posted on X, noting that she first voiced her opinion on this in her memoir.

“America, we can support the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community and also protect opportunities for female athletes. Respect everyone and keep girls’ sports fair. Both ideals are essential,” she added.

Melania Trump has been a longtime supporter of Log Cabin Republicans, the nation’s largest GOP organization dedicated to representing LGBT conservatives and allies. *Emily Goodin*

It’s baby’s first US collectable

Baby’s first piece of Americana?

Millions of newborns arriving during America’s 250th birthday celebration will receive a limited-edition Social Security card with a patriotic new design — making one of their first official government documents a collector’s item.

The cards, emblazoned with the official Freedom 250 logo, will automatically be issued to babies born from July 2 through the end of the year, according to the Social Security Administration. *Marissa Matozzo*

DOJ 'birth visit' fight

The Justice Department pledged on Tuesday to crack down on "birth tourism" after the Supreme Court struck down President Trump's executive order outlawing birthright citizenship for children of illegal immigrants and US visitors.

Colin McDonald, the DOJ's assistant attorney general for fraud enforcement, directed federal prosecutors to "zealously protect the sanctity of United States citizenship by investigating and prosecuting those who fraudulently exploit our immigration system" by traveling to the country under "false pretenses" to give birth.

"The criminal laws of the United States already prohibit conduct inherent to so many of these so-called 'birth tourism' schemes," McDonald, the administration's "fraud czar," wrote in a memo to DOJ employees.

The US government does not currently track the number of babies born to birth tourists.

Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche called birth tourism a "booming industry" at a press conference Wednesday.

"Everybody should agree that it's a violation of our laws if your intent in coming here, if you're pregnant, is to have a child that's a United States citizen," Blanche said.

Victor Nava

Keeping a close 'Watch'

Athletic actress Shay Mitchell sure looks "suit"able for "Baywatch," filming a lifeguard-rescue scene in Venice Beach, Calif., where paparazzi have gotten a lot of sand in their flip-flops snapping away as episodes are being produced amid a growing wave of interest. The eagerly awaited reboot will debut on Fox and Hulu in January.

Tim Regas / SplashNews.com

BIG GOP COURT BOO$T

Fundraise ruling

By JOSH CHRISTENSON

WASHINGTON — GOP contenders who were lagging behind their Democratic rivals in campaign fundraising are poised to see a cash infusion thanks to a Supreme Court ruling Tuesday that will allow Republicans to buy up airspace at discounted rates in the lead-up to the 2026 midterms.

The Supreme Court's decision allowing coordinated spending between political parties and candidates delivered a blow to Democrats, members of both parties agreed, as the GOP's best outcome would be flipping three Senate seats and winning more than a dozen House seats to increase control of Congress.

"The Supreme Court's decision is a major setback for the Democrats' viral fundraisers in states like Texas and Maine," Sean Cooksey, managing director at BGR Group and former chairman of the Federal Election Commission, told The Post.

"What would have been a significant financial advantage over their Republican opponents will be neutralized by the RNC's war chest and its new ability to coordinate ads with candidates," added Cooksey, who most recently served as counsel to Vice President JD Vance.

Senate Republicans are hoping to regain control of Michigan, New Hampshire and Georgia, while retaining seats in Iowa, Alaska, Ohio, North Carolina and Maine. The House GOP's main campaign arm is also eyeing three dozen vulnerable Dem seats.

"The map is much smaller this go around than it has been in past midterms," a Republican National Committee official said. "That makes our money go a lot further than it has in past midterms."

$125M war chest

The Republican National Committee already boasts a whopping $125 million campaign war chest, compared with the Democratic National Committee's more than $14 million — on top of another $18 million in debt.

And the high court's ruling will let the RNC, in addition to the GOP's top two congressional campaign committees, make good use of that cash on hand for campaign advertising in contests where Democrats had been betting on candidates with large national profiles, according to party insiders.

Tucker: It's my time to *third*-party

Conservative podcaster Tucker Carlson intends to start a new political party after disavowing President Trump and the Republican Party over the Iran war.

"I'm going to help build a third party," Carlson said in an interview with the Columbia Journalism Review published Wednesday.

The ex-Fox News host argued when it comes to "war and finance," Democrats and Republicans "are in lockstep.

"That's not a democracy," he said. "That's a one-party state posing as a democracy."

Victor Nava

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Grisly details in gator slay

By ANTHONY BLAIR
and CHRIS NESI

TRAGEDY: Brittany Clark suffered horrific injuries, including the loss of one arm and nearly the other, when she was attacked and killed by an alligator while swimming in Florida.

Chilling audio of a 911 call captures the moment the boyfriend of an alligator attack victim desperately tried to save her after one of her arms had been ripped off by the beast.

Brittany Clark, 31, died from her injuries after being attacked by the giant reptile while swimming in the Econlockhatchee River in Seminole County, Florida on Sunday.

She was finally brought to shore before her boyfriend, Chance Allison, rang 911, urging paramedics to rush to the scene and describing the extent of her injuries.

"Bad, real bad please, hurry . . . she's losing a lot of blood . . . we need to stop the blood," says Allison in the panicked call obtained by The Post.

"She's still breathing she's just, her arms are f--ked so f--king bad bro," a woman who took the phone told operators.

3 feet of water

The woman described Clark's injuries as "horrible," adding that "one of her arms is completely off and the other one is like attached barely."

"Please hurry, that's my best friend," the devastated friend begged.

Clark can be heard crying in the background, as the dispatcher asks if her detached arm can be found.

Clark died on the way to a nearby hospital, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) spokesperson Chad Weber said at a press conference on Monday.

He added that the victim did not appear to have done anything "malicious" to provoke the alligator, and had been swimming in "about three feet of water" at the time of the attack.

"A 13-foot alligator found at the incident location, and a 12.5-foot alligator half a mile away were captured and killed. Samples from the alligators have been collected, and the FWC's investigation into this incident remains active," said the FWC in a statement.

Clark's aunt set up a GoFundMe to pay for her niece's remains to be flown back to her native California.

Describing her death as "a completely bizarre accident," the fundraiser described her as "an amazing person and a fun-loving soul."

Weber stressed in a statement that "serious injuries caused by alligators are rare in Florida."

Between 1948 and 2025, the FWC recorded a total of 500 unprovoked bites in Florida, of which 32 resulted in fatalities, Click Orlando reported.

Nationwide summer vacay gas pains

Summer gas prices are shifting into high gear.

States across the country are increasing their gas tax right as the Fourth of July weekend approaches — so happy birthday, America.

This comes as pump prices are still 40% higher than this past February.

And the state with the highest gas tax in the nation is set for another big increase. California is in the lead, according to the state Department of Tax and Fee Administration, but is still set to increase by another 2.2 cents per gallon.

This takes California's gas tax to 63.4 cents per gallon in accordance with the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. *Aurielle Weiss*

16 kids lived in squalor

Sixteen children from the same family rescued from a dilapidated home in rural Ohio were living in wretched conditions with human waste all around, confined to just one 12-by-12-foot room during much of the past four years, authorities said Wednesday.

Some of the children, 1½ to 18 years old, were unable to speak and a developmentally disabled 18-year-old could not write her name, investigators said.

"Most of our livestock was kept in better conditions than the children," said Vinton County Sheriff Ryan Cain.

Authorities have charged Gary Siders Jr., Gary Siders Sr., Christina Siders and Elizabeth Siders with felony child endangerment.

Authorities found the children while carrying out a search warrant in an unrelated investigation, Ohio Attorney General Andy Wilson said Wednesday.

"We didn't know there were going to be 16 kids there," said Wilson, who was nearly at a loss for words in describing what they found in Hamden, a village of 1,000 that sits in one of Ohio's poorest counties.

"It's the type of thing that we're not used to seeing here in America," he said. *AP*

Ohio motel fire kills 3

A blaze at an Ohio motel trapped residents in a room, killing three people, a fire official said.

Flames were shooting through the motel's roof when firefighters arrived at around 1:30 a.m. Wednesday, said Wooster Township Fire Chief Dallas Terrell.

A motel employee told WEWS-TV that a man called the front desk, saying they could not get out. The employee said two of the victims worked at the motel.

Firefighters made several attempts to reach the victims, Terrell said. No one else was injured, the chief said, and the fire's cause is under investigation. *AP*

ROOM WITH A SPEW

*i forgot to say i've lived in 5 different sublets in the last year 😂 just bouncing around trying to finally get on a lease
through all of last year i've just been aching to find home

@cozygrocery/TikTok

FIRING OFF: "Fire escape girl" Emily Dukes takes to TikTok starting in late May for a monthlong 30-part series complaining about roommate Marlyn Rodriguez (responding top left) choosing not to renew her lease.

NYC subletting drama goes viral

By ASIA GRACE

There's a roommate rumble in the concrete jungle.

Hostilities between housemates Emily Dukes and Marlyn Rodriguez are seeping out from the door sill of their Manhattan dwelling and onto the savage streets of social media, where virtual spectators are eagerly taking sides in this chaotic subleasing divide.

Warfare between the two erupted after one month of living together, when Rodriguez, the leaseholder of the apartment, informed Dukes, a subletter, that she would not be renewing the lease in July, leaving Dukes homeless.

Dukes, a 30-year-old NYC newcomer and full-time artist, rushed to the internet, claiming to be in a "horribly traumatizing situation" after getting "blindsided" by Rodriguez, who allegedly told her that she was "being kicked out at the end of June with absolutely no prior notice."

The creative detailed the discord in a viral, 30-part video series — most of which she recorded from her fire escape — garnering millions of views and nearly $5,000 from supporters who've since donated to her GoFundMe account.

The contributions, according to Dukes' fundraiser, would either help her "pay the entirety of rent for the month of July (if the [landlord] will even let me) on top of a security deposit" or be allocated toward her relocation fees.

Dukes even tearfully quoted the speech Mayor Mamdani gave after the Knicks won the NBA championship last month: "What is New York if not your back is up against the wall, your dream just out of reach, unsure how you'll make your next rent payment."

"Looking at those 99.6% odds that are against you and smiling because in that 0.4% of New Yorkers find a way," the transplant — who's admittedly lived in five subleases over the past year — sobbed to a digital audience of over 4.6 million.

Rodriguez, a 20-something 9-to-5er, responded to Dukes' multipart rant, insisting, "I don't owe you s--t," and claiming she gave Dukes "plenty of time and notice to make arrangements."

Cathartic re-lease

"The real issue is that the rent increased and now you need to qualify for the lease yourself, and that is not my problem," said Rodriguez, "that's just how New York renting goes."

Neither Dukes nor Rodriguez responded to requests for comment.

The beef being cooked up by the feuding pair, however, has served as a feast for the eyes of nosey social media commenters, who are eating up the digital drama and calling out which roommate they believe is in the wrong.

"Get a job," critics repeatedly wrote beneath Dukes' posts, scolding her for crowdfunding.

"NYers also hustle like multiple jobs. Idk if that's still an option here," spat a local.

"As an artist in NYC who's been through homelessness, I say this with empathy: you're gonna have to put pride aside and work," another advised, in part. "I have walked dogs, cleaned toilets, ran errands for a vindictive architect, babysat for difficult kids, cleaned filthy apartments and worse."

Equally unsympathetic onlookers rebuked Dukes for attempting to leverage Mamdani's message to the Knicks.

"I don't think Zohran was talking abt you in the Knicks speech; he might be speaking against you bc you're evil," wrote an X user.

Rodriguez received an outpouring of support from folks saying she handled the situation like "a true New Yorker."

"You dodged a bullet by not signing that lease," praised a commenter.

"Girl, I had a roommate just like her and, all I'm gonna say is I'm so sorry," another said.

Dukes, who the internet has sarcastically nicknamed "fire escape girl," is sorry, too.

After receiving donations via GoFundMe, the artist was finally able to come to an agreement with the landlord and take over the lease of the apartment.

But after taking to social media throughout her weeklong saga, she's apologized for oversharing.

"I fully take ownership — none of this would have happened had I not come to social media in the first place," Dukes conceded in a clip shared this week, adding that she is a part-time photographer and videographer who's "always" paid her bills on time.

Dukes then vowed to give a portion of the GoFundMe cash to charities dedicated to the unhoused and those suffering from mental-health issues in her community.

Hall of a mistake

No reason for 5th Ave. food court

Emmy Park for NY Post

***MEH* HALL!** Shaver Hall (above) has some decent cheese (inset) and other options but not enough to justify this stale idea in vibrant, foodie NYC.

STEVE CUOZZO

IF the Big Apple has one food trend that needs to die, it's food halls — those indoor clusters of same-old "favorites" that might or might not be available at any time you go.

Just-opened Shaver Hall in the former Lord & Taylor building's ground floor on Fifth Avenue, now owned by Amazon, hopes to buck the recent trend of flops. I wish them well, but the model is as stale as cheese left to mold in the sun.

NYC *itself* is better

The Dallas-based The Food Hall Co. is behind Shaver Hall. Jeff Bezos should fire whoever decided to install a Texas-based outfit in what was until 2019 one of the city's most iconic shopping venues.

In the last couple years, Shaver Hall has had tons of hype in WWD, Forbes and Travel + Leisure — and, yes, the New York Post — even as the city was fast losing its taste for food halls.

The public chewed up and spit out food courts branded by the great Jean-Georges Vongerichten at the Tin Building and popular chef Todd English at The Plaza hotel.

Next to go, on July 17, will be Singapore-themed Urban Hawker in Midtown, following: Gotham West, Canal Street Market, Market Lane, several locations of Urban Space, Citizens Market Hall and Williamsburg Food Hall. Like Shaver Hall, they all claimed to be "a food hall like no other."

But the Big Apple is a giant, five-borough "food court." Who needs to eat cliché dishes at cramped tables in charmless, warehouse-like settings when there are vastly more interesting options at actual, comfortable restaurants near your apartment door.

Close to my Upper East Side home are French, Italian, Japanese, American and British eateries. We also have — right across the street and around the corner! — sit-down places for Afghan kebabs, South African grilled meats, Spanish tapas, Ecuadorean fish soup, Irish stew, Indian tandoori, Thai curry and Mexican paletas.

With so many intriguing options, I can't get excited about pepperoni slices at Shaver's F&F Pizza outpost.

Food halls' shortcomings are no secret. Because operators lease stands to outside vendors but don't actually manage them, customers find inconsistent food, unpredictable opening hours and long waits for what's supposed to be "fast" food.

At least Shaver Hall isn't as awkward as many, thanks to decent chairs and adequately spaced tables and counters. It has 11 "chef-curated" stands, three sit-down restaurants and two bars, as well as a stage for live entertainment and televised sports.

Most offerings are similar to those at roughly 100,000 grab-and-go spots nearby. The best I had was a bowl of peppery tan tan noodles with roasted and ground pork for $18 at Tonchinette, which calls itself a "streamlined spin" on the Tonchin ramen spots in Midtown and Brooklyn.

I also enjoyed an al pastor taco with a corn tortilla and fine-shredded pork from Taqueria al Pastor ($4.95). But Zazu Mediterranean was "out of" chicken shawarma at 11 a.m.

Even a unique conveyor belt of cheese doesn't make Shaver Hall worth a visit. At the first US location of London-born Pick & Cheese, guests sit around a 200-foot-long oval counter as dozens of numbered plates of cheese and morsels zoom past on a fast-moving belt. (The numbers correspond to descriptions in a printed menu.)

Too bad they were out of a half-dozen varieties at lunchtime. The three I picked from those available ($5.95-7.95) all tasted fine, especially creamy-and-crumbly Humboldt Fog goat cheese from California. But I went batty making sense of the color-coded plates and labels as items whizzed past me.

A self-serve tap wall, with 20 wines and beers by the glass, was too confusing, so there wasn't a single customer every time I checked.

The best deal in the house might be in the lobby just past the food hall's door. An Amazon cart offers free bananas. Maybe they know Shaver Hall is bananas, too.

BROOKE HANLON
Fatally stabbed at NJ home.

Horror slay of shrink

A psychotherapist and new mother was shockingly stabbed to death inside her home in a ritzy New Jersey suburb last month — with investigators identifying her only this week as they search for the killer.

Brooke Hanlon, 35, was found knifed in her Chester house in the middle of the day on June 6, a rep for the Morris County Prosecutor's Office confirmed to The Post.

Emergency responders rushed to her residence 40 miles west of New York City at 4:30 p.m. on a call of a woman in cardiac arrest, according to dispatch audio obtained by People.

The dispatcher later informed responding units the unidentified caller "did advise that [the victim has] a large laceration on the breast," the outlet reported.

An individual performed CPR on Hanlon, but she died at the scene.

Hanlon's death was ruled a homicide, according to the Morris County ME's Office.

The mother worked as a psychotherapist at LifeStance, an in-person and telehealth behavioral health center in Bernardsville, according to her LinkedIn profile. *Zoe Hussain*

Drone strikes anti-Iran Kurds

An explosive-laden drone targeted a camp belonging to an Iranian Kurdish opposition group, Iraqi security sources said early Thursday.

The attack caused a fire at the camp in the Koysanjaq district, east of Erbil in Iraq's Kurdistan region.

There was no immediate information on casualties or who was responsible for the attack. *Reuters*

Veteran guilty in wife slay

An ex-US Army soldier accused of fatally shooting his wife and covering up her death was stony-faced inside an Alaska courtroom as he was convicted of her murder.

Zarrius Hildabrand, 23, faces up to 99 years in prison after an Anchorage jury on June 25 found him guilty of the August 2023 death of Alaska National Guard combat medic Saria Barney Hildabrand, 21, according to Court TV.

Hildabrand was acquitted of first-degree murder, but was convicted of second-degree murder and evidence tampering.

The killer looked at the judge and showed no emotion as the results of the jury deliberations were read out in the courthouse. He's set to be sentenced on Oct. 23.

Saria was shot dead in the early hours of Aug. 6, 2023, after she celebrated her 21st birthday. During the two-week trial, Hildabrand's lawyers tried to claim she may have taken her own life, or died accidentally, KTUU reported.

Before being convicted, Hildabrand took the stand and said he wanted to put the truth on record, but said he couldn't remember much of what followed because he was still drunk from the night before.

Chris Bradford With Wires

Search for Navy airman

A US Navy airman is missing after an MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter went down in the Arabian Sea on Wednesday.

The Sea Hawk, assigned with the USS George H. W. Bush aircraft carrier, was forced to conduct an emergency landing at around 3:30 a.m., the US 5th Fleet said in a statement.

"There is no indication the emergency was caused by hostile action," officials wrote on X.

"Three of the helicopter's four crew members have been recovered and are in stable condition aboard George H. W. Bush," the 5th Fleet added. *Ronny Reyes*

Journo seeks truth on COVID hush

PFIZER TROVE ON JOE AGENDA

DIGGING: Alex Berenson is suing over free-speech infringement on social media.

Obtained by NY Post

By JOSH CHRISTENSON

Former New York Times journalist Alex Berenson told "Pod Force One" in the latest episode, released Wednesday, that the pharmaceutical giant Pfizer could be handing over even more records about its talks with Biden administration officials who sought to suppress online speech.

"Pfizer will have to turn over documents talking about their communications with the Biden administration," Berenson told The Post's Miranda Devine on the podcast, referencing his lawsuit against Pfizer executives for allegedly violating his First Amendment rights. "And to me, that would be huge."

Berenson, one of the most prominent skeptics of the US response to COVID-19, previously settled a suit against Twitter, now X, in 2022 for breach of contract after the social-media platform banned him from posting in August 2021 amid the pandemic.

POD FORCE ONE
WITH MIRANDA DEVINE

In 2023, he also filed a suit against Biden administration officials, Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla and the pharma company's board member Scott Gottlieb, alleging coercion that trampled on his free-speech rights.

Both the 2022 Twitter suit and the government's side of the 2023 suit were settled, but Berenson expressed hope that — even after congressional investigations produced documents showing that Big Tech censored online posts flagged by the Biden White House — more evidence comes to light.

"These Biden administration officials, they were leaning on . . . they were directly pressuring these social-media companies, saying you're allowing vaccine misinformation, you're killing people," the ex-investigative business reporter said.

"The companies said, 'Look, these people have First Amendment right to talk, or we think they should be allowed to talk, and by the way you're putting pressure on us. We don't like that, that seems to implicate the First Amendment,'" he continued.

"The Biden administration was like, 'No, this is really bad, you're allowing it. If this continues, we may try to go after Section 230 protection,' which is very valuable to social-media companies."

'Bullied' social media

Berenson singled out Andrew Slavitt and Rob Flaherty — who were both named in his 2023 lawsuit — as having been focused on suppressing posts on Twitter and Facebook, respectively.

"They really bullied them," he emphasized, acknowledging that Pfizer has argued against his attorneys that Slavitt wasn't in a White House role during a portion of the period in question.

Berenson's legal challenges were also separate from the most high-profile ruling involving government suppression of free speech during the COVID era, Missouri v. Biden, which a federal circuit court judge — citing, in part, communications from Flaherty — likened to an "Orwellian 'Ministry of Truth.' "

"If I can get what's left of the case, even though I've settled with the federal government, against Pfizer to move forward, it would be a significant win for me. Not just [a] win for me, but a win for . . . the First Amendment," Berenson told "Pod Force One."

"And for this idea that, listen, unvaccinated people were punished in 2021, we're going to acknowledge that and this discovery. What was Pfizer in the summer of 2021 talking to the Biden administration about?" he asked.

"Because it's not just about me. It's about whether or not they knew the vaccines were failing, whether they thought a mandate was coming . . . the conversations that this company, which had a huge financial interest here, and the government were having."

Pilot sues over bites at 'batty' Denver hotel

This hotel stay really bites.

A California pilot was awoken in the middle of the night by a swarm of bats invading his hotel room, only to later realize one of the winged beasts had bitten him — costing him over $100,000 for rabies shots, a lawsuit alleges.

The commercial aviator — whose name is being withheld to protect his job — was staying at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel last Aug. 29 while in town for a work training when the batty incident unfolded, according to the Denver suit.

The pilot, a 46-year-old married father of one, woke up around 2:30 in the morning to "commotion," his lawyer said.

"Imagine you're sleeping in a hotel room and you wake up and you see bats flying around. That's scary," attorney Edward Lomena told The Post.

Marriott didn't immediately return a request for comment on Wednesday.

Priscilla DeGregory

Soccer fans kick StubHub

World Cup fans have sued StubHub Inc, accusing the resale platform of failing to deliver expensive tickets they bought on the secondary market for the world's premier soccer tournament.

In a proposed class action filed late Tuesday in Manhattan federal court, fans claimed they "did not get what they paid for" because StubHub never delivered their promised tickets.

StubHub did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Fans have flooded social media during the tournament in the United States, Mexico and Canada, blaming StubHub for last-minute ticket cancellations and for reneging on assurances they could get replacements.

StubHub has blamed FIFA's ticketing infrastructure for resale problems. The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages of at least $5 million for thousands of people in the US. *Reuters*

Mitch med scare

Senator may have had heart attack

By JOSH CHRISTENSON

WASHINGTON — Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) was found "unconscious" and may have suffered a heart attack at his DC residence before being rushed to a local hospital last month, according to a District Fire and EMS dispatch call made public on Wednesday.

The June 14 call referenced medical personnel in an ALS, or Advanced Life Support, ambulance being sent to the home shortly before 9 a.m. and mentioned there was "CPR in progress" for a "cardiac arrest."

Punchbowl News first reported on the EMS radio traffic.

Representatives for McConnell, the former Senate Majority Leader did not comment on the communications.

A McConnell spokesman on the day of the incident shared that the Kentucky senator "was admitted to the hospital this morning" and was "receiving excellent care."

Back at work

The next day, spokesman David Popp said McConnell was "working closely with staff on Senate business and Kentucky matters as he continues his recovery."

Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD) also said his predecessor was "dialed in" on their conference's legislative business, while Thune himself had spoken to McConnell by phone.

'UNCONSCIOUS': Sen. Mitch McConnell was rushed to a hospital in May, an emergency call reveals.

The 84-year-old McConnell has suffered multiple falls that left him with a concussion and a cracked rib in recent years, in addition to eerie public freeze-ups due to apparent lightheadedness.

In February, McConnell was hospitalized while suffering flu-like symptoms.

He's been seen recently in the Capitol being escorted around in a wheelchair.

The Senate is on recess until July 13.

McConnell, a seven-term senator, served as the leader of the Senate GOP from 2007 until January 2025. He is the longest-serving Senate party leader, having been the majority whip and minority leader in addition to the majority leader.

In February 2025, he announced that he wouldn't be seeking re-election to an eighth term in 2026.

Rep. Andy Barr (R-Ky.) won the Republican primary race this year to replace him.

jchristenson@nypost.com

Drones ignite inn in Kyiv

Russian forces attacked the Ukrainian capital Kyiv with drones late Wednesday, triggering a fire in a hotel on a central boulevard and leaving debris scattered in two city districts.

Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko said on Telegram that the hotel roof was on fire on Shevchenko Boulevard. Pictures posted online showed an out-of-control blaze on top of the building.

Another witness said explosions were heard in the capital's western districts.

Klitschko said drone fragments hit the ground in the city center and in a northeastern suburb.

Other pictures on unofficial Telegram channels showed residents crowding into underground stations.

President Volodymyr Zelensky earlier warned that intelligence reports showed an overnight attack on the country was likely and said he was cutting his stay in Dublin short. *Reuters*

Post Weather Report

AccuWeather. Proven **Superior Accuracy**™ Get the AccuWeather app

Thursday

HOT

Today: Very hot. High 97 to 103.

Tonight: Mainly clear and very warm. Low 79 to 85.

Friday

HOT

Tomorrow: Near-record temperatures and humid. High 97 to 103.

Tomorrow night: Partly cloudy, a t-storm; warm. Low 78 to 84.

Saturday

A heavy t-storm. High 92 to 98.

Evening
A t-storm around. Low 74 to 80.

Sunday

A p.m. t-storm. High 87 to 93.

Evening
A t-storm or two. Low 69 to 75.

Almanac

YESTERDAY'S CONDITIONS AT CENTRAL PARK THROUGH 6PM

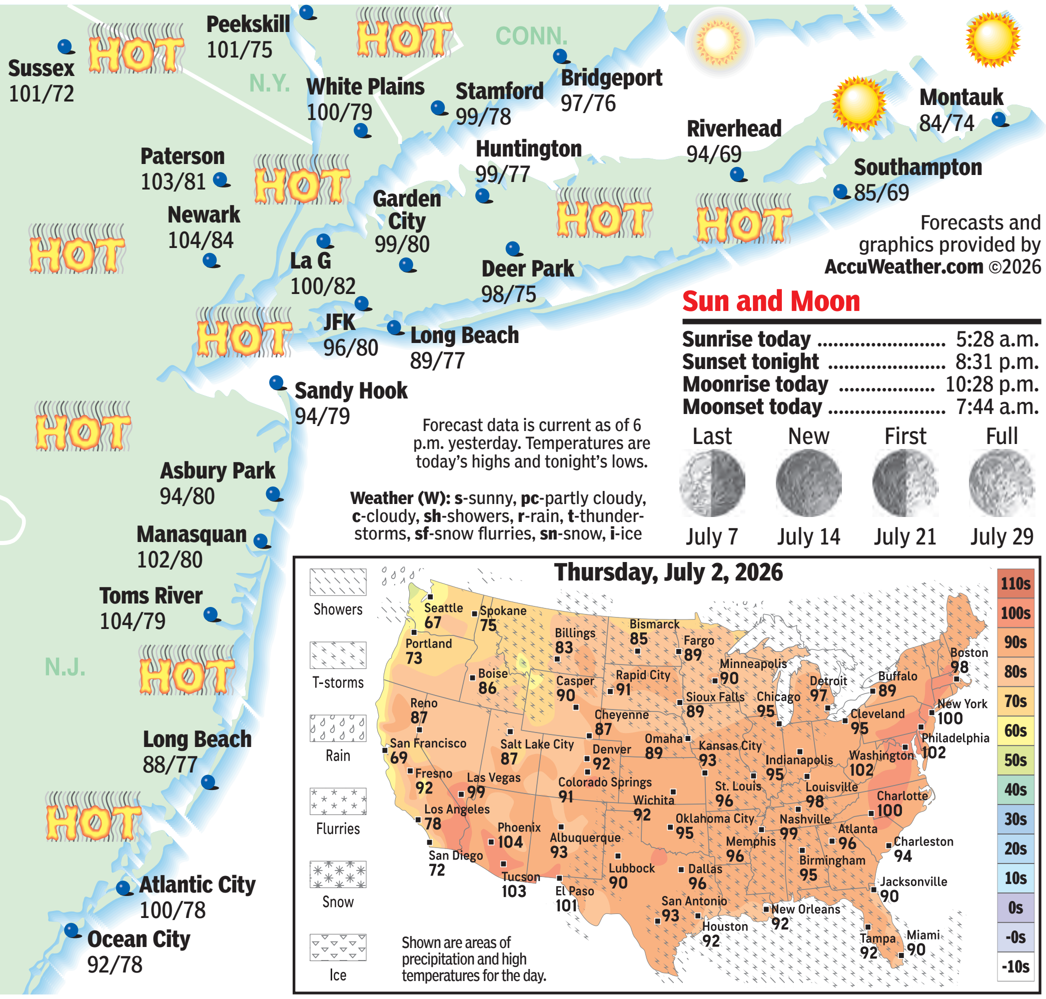
Temperature
High: 93, Low: 75, Mean: 84

Departure from Normal
Yesterday: +8 degrees

Precipitation
Yesterday: 0.00", Month: 0.00",
Year: 17.82", Normal year to date: 23.84"

Cooling Degree days yesterday...............19
Total for the month (normal)...........19 (11)
Total since Jan. 1 (normal)...........419 (319)
Last year to date.....................................345
Heat Index (at noon yest.) 95
UV index (for Thu.) .... 11 (Extreme)
Humidity (at noon) 59%

AIR QUALITY
Pollen: Low Predominant pollen: Trees, Grasses, Weeds
AQI rating: (for Thu.) ....Moderate


Peekskill 101/75
Sussex 101/72
HOT
N.Y.
CONN.
White Plains 100/79
Stamford 99/78
Bridgeport 97/76
Montauk 84/74
Riverhead 94/69
Huntington 99/77
Paterson 103/81
Garden City 99/80
Southampton 85/69
Newark 104/84
La G 100/82
Deer Park 98/75
JFK 96/80
Long Beach 89/77
Sandy Hook 94/79
Asbury Park 94/80
Manasquan 102/80
Toms River 104/79
N.J.
Long Beach 88/77
Atlantic City 100/78
Ocean City 92/78
Thursday, July 2, 2026
Showers
T-storms
Rain
Flurries
Snow
Ice
Seattle 67
Spokane 75
Portland 73
Billings 83
Bismarck 85
Fargo 89
Boise 86
Casper 90
Rapid City 91
Minneapolis 90
Reno 87
Sioux Falls 89
Chicago 95
Detroit 97
Buffalo 89
Boston 98
New York 100
Cleveland 95
Cheyenne 87
Omaha 89
San Francisco 69
Salt Lake City 87
Denver 92
Kansas City 93
Indianapolis 95
Washington 102
Philadelphia 102
Fresno 92
Las Vegas 99
Colorado Springs 91
St. Louis 96
Louisville 98
Wichita 92
Charlotte 100
Los Angeles 78
Oklahoma City 95
Nashville 99
Phoenix 104
Albuquerque 93
Memphis 96
Atlanta 96
Charleston 94
San Diego 72
Birmingham 95
Tucson 103
El Paso 101
Lubbock 90
Dallas 96
Jacksonville 90
San Antonio 93
Houston 92
New Orleans 92
Tampa 92
Miami 90
110s
100s
90s
80s
70s
60s
50s
40s
30s
20s
10s
0s
-0s
-10s

Shown are areas of precipitation and high temperatures for the day.

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather.com** ©2026

Forecast data is current as of 6 p.m. yesterday. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Weather (W): s-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **sh**-showers, **r**-rain, **t**-thunderstorms, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today .... 5:28 a.m.
Sunset tonight .... 8:31 p.m.
Moonrise today .... 10:28 p.m.
Moonset today .... 7:44 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
July 7	July 14	July 21	July 29

New York Tides

High Tide for	TODAY 1st	TODAY 2nd	TOMORROW 1st	TOMORROW 2nd
Coney Island	10:08a	10:08p	10:47a	10:46p
Fire Island	10:01a	10:26p	10:44a	11:06p
Hempstead	1:08a	1:43p	1:45a	2:17p
Huntington	1:17a	1:50p	1:56a	2:28p
Jones Inlet	9:52a	9:52p	10:31a	10:30p
Montauk Point	11:45a	11:48p	12:32p	---
Port Washington	1:06a	1:41p	1:42a	2:14p
Sandy Hook	10:12a	10:12p	10:51a	10:50p

Regional cities

Regional cities	TODAY	TOMORROW
Albany	99/76/pc	98/74/t
Danbury	101/74/pc	99/73/pc
Glens Falls	99/71/t	97/67/t
Gr Barrington	97/73/pc	97/71/t
Kingston	102/74/pc	99/72/t
Liberty	94/73/s	92/69/t
Monticello	93/73/s	94/69/t
Newburgh	101/74/s	100/73/pc
Poughkeepsie	102/73/pc	98/70/t
Saratoga Springs	98/74/pc	98/72/t
Stroudsburg	100/73/s	100/73/t
Torrington	98/74/pc	98/74/t
Syracuse	99/76/s	92/70/t

World cities

World cities	TODAY	TOMORROW
Athens	91/73/s	92/75/s
Baghdad	116/90/s	112/80/s
Beijing	93/73/pc	96/76/pc
Berlin	81/58/pc	73/55/c
Cairo	96/75/pc	97/77/pc
Dublin	68/51/c	69/60/pc
Geneva	83/59/s	83/58/pc
Hong Kong	93/83/r	92/81/r
Jerusalem	86/68/s	85/67/s
Kabul	86/67/pc	87/69/pc
London	79/55/s	82/58/s
Madrid	96/65/s	99/69/s
Mexico City	73/56/r	75/57/r
Montreal	91/73/t	89/69/t
Moscow	86/64/pc	79/63/pc
Paris	79/58/c	82/56/pc
Rio de Janeiro	81/69/s	77/67/sh
Rome	85/70/t	90/69/pc
Sydney	74/57/s	67/50/s
Tokyo	75/69/sh	81/68/c

POSTOPINION

Target: Musk

The rabid left's rage isn't aimed at Elon alone

ELON IS STEALING YOUR 401K
ELON IS STEALING YOUR PENSION
THIS BILLIONAIRE IS STEALING FROM YOU
OVERTHROW THE OLIGARCHS
Nasdaq

OLGA FEDOROVA/EPA/Shutterstock

Frenzy: Lefty protesters vented fury last month as SpaceX went public.

KAROL MARKOWICZ

DEMOCRATS are having a communist moment — yet again. From New York to Colorado, the most radical candidates in multiple races are poised to win in November, dragging the party ever more leftward.

Just as in every other communist revolution, their first goal is to make foes of society's most productive and wealthy people. And right now the richest of them all, Elon Musk, is Public Enemy No. 1.

What's happening to Musk is straight from the pages of Saul Alinsky's "Rules for Radicals" playbook, specifically Rule No. 13: "Pick the target, freeze it, personalize it and polarize it." The torrent of abuse directed at Musk has increased dramatically in the last few weeks, ever since Musk's investments crossed him into "trillionaire on paper" territory.

That's when Democrats like Rep. Ro Khanna and Sen. Elizabeth Warren started agitating to seize Musk's assets — because it's just so gosh-darn unfair for him to profit from his unbelievable successes.

"A 5% tax on Elon's trillion net worth would literally pay for free college and trade school for every American," Khanna ludicrously wrote on June 5. The helpful community note attached to his X post should have set him straight: Khanna's proposal would net $60 billion — just a fraction of the $160 billion spent every year spent on tuition in bachelor's degree programs alone.

Warren echoed his seize-first-do-math-later sentiment when she posted that a slice of Elon's assets could pay for "child care for all three and four year olds in America." This is nowhere near the reality: Seizing 100% of Musk's wealth would keep the entire government running for about three months, total.

And the hysteria ramped up from there. On June 22, Khanna accused Musk of having "possibly sentenced to death" an incredible "4.5 million children," when Musk's Department of Government Efficiency recommended cuts to USAID. Note the word "possibly," carefully inserted to keep Musk from suing Khanna into oblivion for that nasty bit of slander.

Then came Nicholas Kristof, fresh off his nonsense column accusing Israel of using dogs to rape prisoners, who started naming names of people Musk had ostensibly killed. "Yamah Freeman was a 23-year-old woman who died in childbirth because Musk cut funding for the diesel for ambulances in her part of Liberia," Kristof alleged.

And how about Peter Donde, he demanded, "a 10 year old in South Sudan who had his HIV medication cut off." Yet Musk did no such thing: DOGE didn't actually make *any* cuts to the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, which since 2003 has spent over $130 billion of Americans' tax money on HIV eradication around the world.

In fact, as Musk tried to explain, much of DOGE's work entailed asking recipients to confirm that the money America sends them is actually reaching the people it's supposed to help. "Anything that appeared to be legitimate lifesaving funding continued," he pointed out, "and is now administered by the State Department."

It didn't matter. None of Musk's accusers were arguing in good faith: They were too busy personalizing and polarizing their target. Their allegations didn't have to be true, or even make any sense — just invoking Musk's name and stirring up the hatred was enough.

Ironically, many of Musk's most rabid accusers are themselves very wealthy. The Free Beacon's deep dive into Khanna's personal finances this week revealed that his two school-age children have "large ownership shares in three private golf clubs" — and his wife drives a $190,000 car.

The communist nomenklatura always have insider privileges, but this is a bit much. How is it acceptable for Khanna to live in splendor while an ambulance in Liberia has no fuel? How could he let his kids hoard their wealth, rather than spending it to save HIV-positive children's lives?

The relentless attacks on Musk combine open envy with the politicized push for a socialist system that would confiscate everything he's earned. And they're pure poison in an era of "assassination culture" cheered by the left.

The lies about him are meant to lather the base into a frenzy — and while the ostensible target is Elon Musk, what's really in the crosshairs is America itself. Right now the United States is engaged in a humanitarian mission to save lives following the earthquake in Venezuela.

America is always there when the world needs us. But that generosity can't leave us open to multi-decade scams that rob us blind, lest every death on Earth be laid at America's feet.

We're a country that allows people to reach their full potential and make as much money as they can imagine. We're also a country that does unimaginable good in this world.

The socialists need to destroy that truth if they're to succeed in their devastating aims. We can't let them.

FAST TAKES

Supremes watch: A Win for Girls' Sports

To see "why the U.S. Supreme Court's June 30 decision in two cases preserving fairness in girls' and women's sports is so important, look to California," argues USA Today's Ingrid Jacques. There, a transgender athlete "won two track and field state championships in late May — no surprise, given the inherent advantages biological men have over women in athletics." Trans athletes challenged laws requiring they compete under their birth sex in two states, Idaho and West Virginia; the Supreme Court found that states are free to pass such laws and thus protect girls from the unfairness and safety risks that come with having to compete against the opposite sex. "Biological reality matters, and the Supreme Court acknowledged that by allowing states to do what's right."

From the right: Walz Foreshadowed DSA's Rise

"Many Americans," even those "who only casually follow politics," are wondering, "*Just how radical exactly is today's Democrat Party?*" observes David Deavel at AMAC, and the "legacy" of Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz "may provide an answer." A new film about Walz called "Minnesota Mao" reveals his "affection and admiration" for the Chinese "totalitarian dictatorship," and his purchase of "dozens and dozens" of the Little Red Book. Many of Walz's trips to China were funded "in large part" by Beijing, and as governor he promoted his own "Year Zero" approach to history, renaming lakes and removing statues. The film leaves a clear impression that Minnesota's "alternately absurd and frightening governor" foreshadowed the "radicalism of the young DSA politicians" now ascendent in Democratic politics.

Turtle Bay beat: The UN's Recycled Lies on Israel

The latest UN-associated report "accusing Israel of genocide" is riddled with "lazy" recycled conclusions that have been "predetermined and based to a large degree" on earlier lies about Israel, warns the Commentary's Seth Mandel. The report claims Israel was "deliberately targeting" Palestinian children and committing "genocide." Yet "genocide requires intent," so the report's conclusion "never gets off the ground," leaving readers with "a list of unsubstantiated Israeli crimes." Example? The report claims "Israeli attacks hit Gaza schools," but if you read further, the document itself admits "Gaza's schools were closed soon after Hamas initiated the war." "Dishonest activists posing as 'experts' " should hope "no one reads beyond the headline," when they put out their next "already-debunked" report.

Religion desk: The 'Vital Fight' for Liberty

Thomas Jefferson "correctly regarded freedom of religion as a right given by God, not government," contends The Wall Street Journal's William McGurn, though he was wrong in "believing most Americans would exercise their religious liberty by eventually becoming Unitarians." Indeed, " 'the constitutional order that Jefferson helped create has sustained a deeper and more diverse religious life than even the Founders themselves anticipated,' " argues Mark Rienzi, president the Becket Fund, whose "vital cause" is fighting the many threats to "the free exercise of religion." "If our first 250 years have taught us anything, it is that our strength comes from our freedom," insists Rienzi. And "mothing is more American than fighting for religious liberty — even when we disagree."

Thomas Jefferson

Economist: Minimum-Wage Hikes Set To Backfire

Jurisdictions around the country are set to "enact minimum wage hikes," most "based on inflation," notes Michael Saltsman at the Washington Times. But officials in these places "ignore the growing evidence" that raising the minimum wage comes with "serious costs for workers, businesses and consumers." Touted as an affordability measure, "minimum wage hikes are linked to fewer employment opportunities, strained business operations and a higher cost of living." The "economics are straightforward," because when "minimum wages increase" employers "reduce staff" or even go out of business. Moreover, these"wage increases make the cost of living worse, not better" as they fuel inflation. "Minimum wage mandates" mean "the economic situation is likely to worsen," with "fewer jobs, struggling businesses, higher prices" on the horizon.

— *Compiled by The Post Editorial Board*

NEW YORK POST
America's oldest continuously published daily newspaper

Dems Wink at Fraud

Just when you think you've seen the most shocking case of health-care fraud at taxpayer expense, another comes along to jolt you yet again. This time, it's a Medicare scam run by an overseas mob, possibly linked to the Kremlin, that got away with $1 billion of federal money, per a new federal indictment.

The scheme had low-level foreign nationals fly to America and purchase more than 30 medical-supply companies, feds say. They then used the stolen credentials of 7,000 physicians and more than 1 million Medicare recipients to submit a jaw-dropping *$10.6 billion* in fraudulent Medicare claims.

The crooks wound up netting nearly $1 billion in hard cash, which they then allegedly laundered through China, Israel, Pakistan, Singapore and Turkey. Authorities nabbed some of the mob's foot soldiers, but it's not clear who actually ran the operation — and got the money. Experts believe top officials in Russia must have been tied to it.

How is it possible that bureaucrats sent out such massive sums with such apparently little scrutiny? Especially after Medicare recipients who saw the fraudulent billing — for catheters, for example, they never received — reported what they saw?

This on the heels of a report Saturday from Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services boss Mehmet Oz that a 1 million Obamacare enrollees lack Social Security numbers, and none of the paper-pushers who police the program said boo. The men slammed their predecessors for dismantling Obamacare "integrity guardrails, while partisan lawfare blocked common sense efforts to protect taxpayers." As a result, they said, government has been paying people even though it has no idea "if they actually exist."

That so many of these "people" have been getting subsidies suggests this was no mere oversight, but rather part of Democrats' strategy: Pretend fraud doesn't exist, and when Republicans look to eliminate it, paint them as heartless for denying needy Americans vital health care.

Zero-premium policies have been a huge part of the problem, since crooked brokers can apply for them without an enrollee knowing, because no bills are sent out. Indeed, most of these phantom enrollees (those who existed, that is) probably had other forms of insurance, but the brokers got commission and the insurance agencies got the premiums. Only the taxpayers were fleeced.

The sunset of those COVID subsidy enhancements last year may have helped *curb* some of the abuse, but Democrats shut down the government for six weeks in a bid to *block* their expiration. Their argument? Republicans were denying Americans vital health care by not extending them: *People were going to die!* Never mind that most of these "people" had other insurance (say, from an employer) — if they existed at all.

That's a key problem driving all the fraud; recall that Dems lobbed the same false charges at Republicans for targeting fraud in the One Big Beautiful Bill: Medicaid cuts — stemming from a number of anti-fraud measures in the bill — would kill folks, they screamed. Yet last week, Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche announced a federal operation that collared 455 perps linked to as much as $6.5 billion in scams. That's real taxpayer money.

Democrats who push for ever-greater health-care funding have a big stake in fighting fraud, since money that's saved can be rerouted to those who truly need it. Instead, they close their eyes to the abuse and play politics. And Americans pay the price.

Zoh's Latest Socialism Whopper

Mayor Mamdani is bragging that the budget he just pushed through proves socialists understand the economy as well as capitalists, and that, indeed, they're cleaning up the capitalists' mess. What bull.

He's proved nothing about socialism as an economic boon, and his spending plan actually makes the city's fiscal mess *worse*.

The mayor pretends he's a wizard of municipal finance and a dedicated socialist who'll make New York affordable and "equitable": "If these past months have shown us anything," he burbled, "it is that socialists not only understand economics just as well as the capitalists who came before, but that we can solve their years of mismanagement through an embrace of our principles."

Get a grip! First, there's nothing "capitalist" about balancing a budget. It's a question of making ends meet. And Mamdani *barely* did that. Besides, the budgets of his predecessor, Eric Adams, were nothing any hardcore capitalist would approve of. If anything, any "mismanagement" on the ex-mayor's part — bloated, ever-expanding budgets that understated outlays — is characteristic of *socialists*, not capitalists.

If Mamdani were truly fixing anything, it would be the mess of merely a somewhat-less socialist-minded mayor. Yet his budget makes matters *worse*: It takes Adams' last plan and *adds* another $10 billion in new spending, while, says city Comptroller Mark Levine (a fellow Democrat), relying on "$6.1 billion in short-term and one-time measures."

Meanwhile, Hizzoner hasn't done a lick to boost local economic growth, attract business or create new jobs (except for those on his propaganda staff). Instead, he's gotten firms, like Ken Griffin's Citadel, to look to do business elsewhere. So he's already *hurt* the economy, while having no plans to grow it.

If the mayor has some ideas for creating economic value as a socialist, we'd love to hear them. But so far all he's talking about is more spending, with the *hope* that he can find the money to close gaps later.

Of course, Mamdani might be right to talk up socialism now; it might be his only chance. Because if he manages to employ too much of it, the damage it causes will be so obvious, no one will buy his boasts later.

letters@nypost.com

NYC Rent Freeze Asks Landlords To Foot the Bill

THE ISSUE: The Rent Guideline Board's rent freeze on one- and two-year leases for rent-stabilized apartments.

Mayor Mamdani

•Apartments represent a significant source of wealth production for their owners ("Mamdani's Rent Surprise," Editorial, June 27).

Forcing owners of rent-controlled units to absorb inflationary costs for salaries, maintenance, fuel and insurance represents an uncompensated "taking" of owners' equity and property value.

It reduces the ability of owners to maintain properties, while increasing the probability of abandonment and foreclosure by the city. Mayor Mamdani and the rent board have the end goal of "seizing the means of production" within their grasp.

William Fidurski
Clark, NJ

•For more than 30 years, I lived in New York and invested everything I could into one small rent-stabilized building. It wasn't an investment to become wealthy. It was the foundation that allowed me to support my family as a single mother.

More than 20 years ago, I founded Save One Person, a nonprofit dedicated to helping find organ donors. When people ask how I was able to devote my life to helping save strangers, the answer is simple: one small building.

I believe in affordable housing, but why must compassion for one group come at the expense of another? Why are small property owners expected to absorb rising costs?

Please don't make people like us invisible, Mamdani. **Lauren Finkelstein**
Sunny Isles Beach, Fla.

•The Post's editorial correctly points out that the consequences of landlords not being able to recover quickly rising costs will mean "bankruptcy or forced sale to slumlords or incompetents."

Considering the mayor's recent comments, threatening to take "aggressive legal action to remove negligent owners and property managers," my guess is that either the city or Mamdani's handpicked property managers will take over. It's a calculated move for government to confiscate private property.

Peter Kelly, Hazlet, NJ

•As a former mortgage lending officer, I am familiar with the impact of freezing the rents. With the frozen rent and substantial increases of operating expenses and real-estate taxes, there will be major decreases in Net Operating Income. Since property income is evaluated upon this, there will be significant assessed value reductions.

These properties have mortgages. Lower NOIs and values will ignite mortgage delinquency, bankruptcy, foreclosures and a major rent increase for unregulated, market rate apartments. Tenants better brace themselves!

Aldo Matulich
Westchester County

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John Bolton's Guilty Plea

THE ISSUE: Ex-National Security Adviser John Bolton pleading guilty to hoarding classified information.

•Expecting John Bolton to be sent to jail in October by an Obama-era judge is fool's gold ("'Stache'd away after guilty plea," June 27).

Yet Bolton admitted to hoarding classified national-defense documents for use in an upcoming book. This is an opportunity for the US justice system to disprove the belief that "nobody ever goes to jail." Bolton should get maximum jail time and be forced to turn over any advances and profits from his book.

Joe Alloy, Yulee, Fla.

•I was sorry to read that John Bolton is facing five years in jail. I realize he may have done something irresponsible. However, we have a president who caused an insurrection and was also found liable for sexual abuse, and he isn't facing any time in jail. Does that really seem fair?

John Fox, Sunnyside

•At least Bolton didn't keep his classified documents in boxes piled up next to the toilet bowl in his basement bathroom in Mar-a-Lago — just like President Trump did!

Richard Siegelman
Plainview

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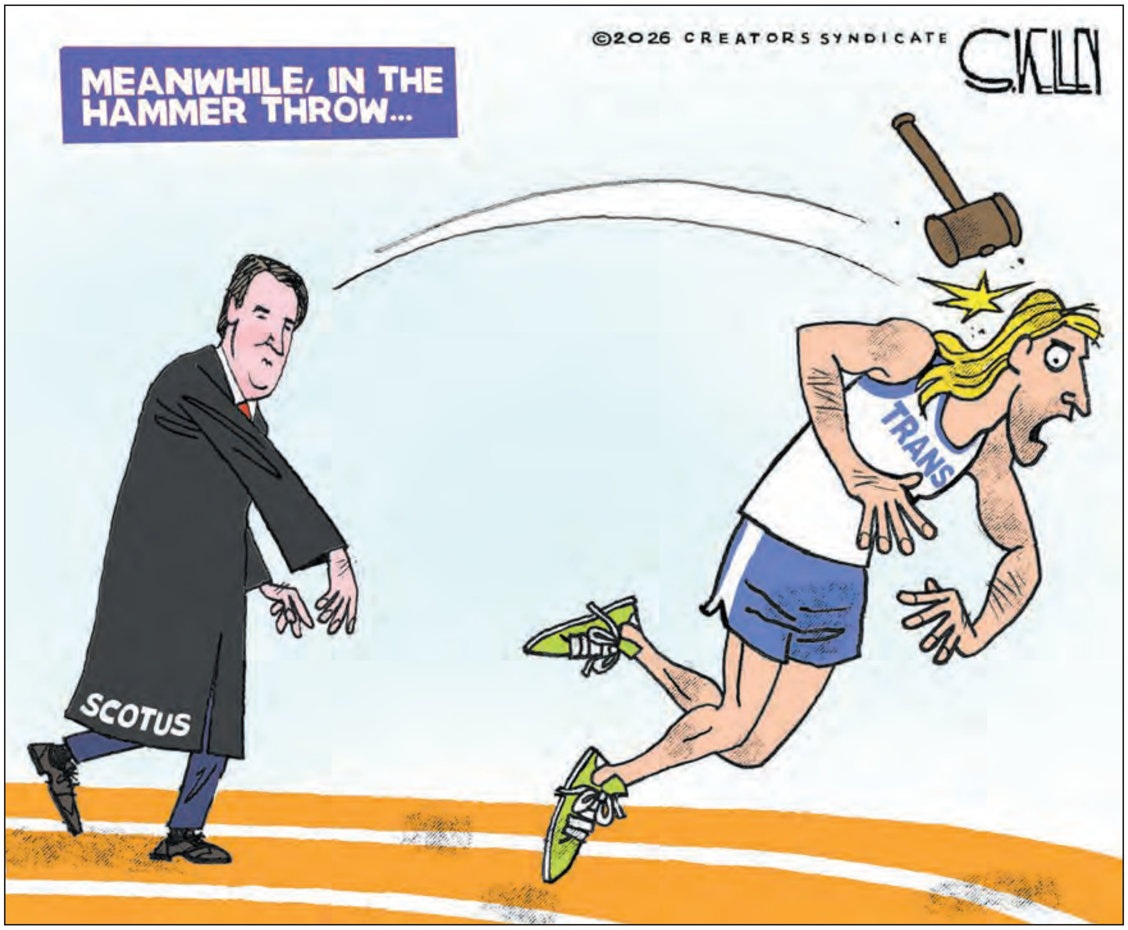

UK’s Birthday Gift to US

SIR CHRISTIAN TURNER

PRESIDENT Trump has been consistent, and he is correct: America’s allies must do more for their own defense and for our collective security. Britain has heard that message — and we are acting on it, putting our money where our mouth is.

The United Kingdom is now undertaking its largest sustained increase in defense spending since the Cold War, on track to rise by 27% in real terms by 2030 as part of our commitment to reach 3.5% of GDP by 2035.

Under our new Defense Investment Plan, published Tuesday, the UK has committed an additional $20 billion in funding to a defense plan that’s set to spend $393 billion over the next four years. To put it in perspective, that’s more than enough money to buy all 32 NFL franchises — or the McDonald’s Corporation.

This weekend, the United Kingdom will proudly and wholeheartedly join our American friends to mark 250 years since the Declaration of Independence. We share an extraordinary story: What began in bloody conflict in 1776 has been forged into the deepest, closest alliance between any two nations.

Britain is determined to ensure we remain Washington’s preeminent ally — side by side in defense, nuclear security and intelligence, together at the heart of NATO, AUKUS and the Five Eyes network. We are already NATO’s third-highest defense spender in cash terms, an investment that’s about reshaping our capabilities to prevail in the conflicts of tomorrow.

A stronger Britain means a stronger NATO, and a stronger NATO means a more secure America. After all, Article V, the principle that an attack on one alliance member is an attack on all, has only been invoked once — in defense of the United States after 9/11.

And this British investment is flowing directly to American workers and businesses, because our two nations’ defense industrial bases have long been connected. Between 2022 and 2024, allies agreed to buy $120 billion worth of weapons from US defense firms.

By 2035, Lockheed Martin will supply 50% of all fighter jets in Europe. British investment in US defense programs supports more than 160,000 American jobs. Meanwhile, at least 15% of every F-35 aircraft is produced in the United Kingdom.

Our investments are not based on sentiment for past glories: They are hard-headed and informed by lessons learned from Ukraine and the Middle East. We are modernizing our warfighting capabilities across every domain. That’s why the UK’s plan focuses on autonomous drones, new munitions, new warships and submarines, uncrewed missile systems and a new cyber force.

Nowhere is the strength of UK-US defense expertise more evident than in the AUKUS military pact. Alongside Australia, our three nations are building the next generation of nuclear-powered attack submarines and accelerating cooperation on emerging technologies for new weapons systems and underwater capabilities.

For 250 years, the relationship between Britain and America has been one of the world’s greatest strategic partnerships. The bedrock is our willingness to jointly bear the burdens of leadership, our shared sacrifice and the defense of the common values we cherish.

The United Kingdom is investing in the future of our transatlantic alliance, giving our extraordinary service personnel the equipment and powers they need to fight and win. Our commitment ensures that the UK and the US will meet the challenges of a more dangerous and contested world — together.

Sir Christian Turner is the British ambassador to the United States of America.

Med Schools Retreat On Dangerous DEI

DR. STANLEY GOLDFARB

THE Fourth of July is America’s 250th birthday, but we’ve already received an early gift. As of Wednesday, America’s medical schools are no longer being forced to teach discriminatory and divisive DEI ideology to the next generation of physicians — after months of public and political pressure, including from President Trump’s Justice Department.

This largely under-the-radar shift will benefit all Americans’ health and well-being: Now, tomorrow’s doctors can focus all their attention on treating patients equally, and with excellent care.

On July 1, new accreditation standards go into effect for the United States’ 162 MD- and 46 DO-granting medical schools. The separate accrediting organizations that govern them issue educational standards that all member schools must uphold. And in recent months both organizations have heavily rewritten their standards, completely ditching so-called “diversity, equity and inclusion” mandates.

These mandates emphasize political indoctrination over health education — and have no place in the training of doctors.

Consider the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, the powerful organization that oversees MD-granting medical schools. Since at least 2015, the committee has required them to teach students to recognize and address “biases in themselves, in others, and in the health care delivery process.”

Later, it added required training in “health care disparities and health inequities.” (There’s no evidence DEI helps solve such problems.) Result: The vast majority of medical schools instituted a formal anti-racist curriculum and made DEI a “key learning outcome.”

The Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation required these institutions to “include a commitment to advancing diversity, equity and inclusion.”

Each school was forced to establish a DEI office, effectively embedding the ideology throughout medical education and playing an outsized role in training of physicians in this increasingly popular discipline. These mandates distract medical students from learning actual medicine, thereby endangering the patients they will go on to treat.

> ‘Patients expect their doctors to be healers, not activists in lab coats.’

Worse, DEI’s ideological demand for a more diverse student body necessarily erodes academic standards. Merit, not skin color, ought to decide who’s accepted into a profession that deals with life and death.

And DEI inevitably ladders up to preferential race-based care in a dangerous and discriminatory attempt to eliminate health disparities. Medical education authorities even believe that matching physicians and patients by race improves health outcomes — a claim unsupported by evidence and tantamount to segregation.

None of this bodes well for patient health. As DEI education has gained ground in medical education, student achievement has declined.

Nationwide, the percentage of medical students who pass the first part of the licensure exam has fallen since 2020, dropping from 97% to 89% in 2024 for MD students. For DO students, the decline was 95% to 86%.

What’s more, all the talk of systemic racism worsens the crisis of trust that already afflicts medicine. Black or brown patients are understandably reluctant to seek care if they’ve been told that racist white doctors will stack the medical deck against them.

DEI in medical education is a recipe for worse health outcomes. So The LCME has replaced its DEI language with a new section on cultivating “self-directed learning,” and identifying “critical gaps in knowledge or understanding.” COCA, for its part, has simply eliminated every reference to DEI.

No medical school can now say it’s required to have a DEI office, or to embed that ideology in its curriculum. Certainly, some medical schools may choose to continue their DEI programs and courses — but any that do are insulting the students they teach, and endangering the patients those students will soon treat.

The practice of medicine depends on the quality of medical education — and medical schools that spend even a moment on DEI commit less time to the study of evidence, ethics and excellent care. But patients and doctors must stay vigilant: The decision to ditch DEI can always be reversed in the future — say, after Trump leaves office.

That’s why his administration should encourage the rise of new accreditors, providing competition that will keep medical schools laser-focused on medicine. Because patients expect their doctors to be world-class healers, not activists in lab coats.

Stanley Goldfarb, MD, is chairman at Do No Harm.

The Post Puzzle Page

SCRABBLE GRAMS

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A_1 O_1 U_1 M_3 B_3 T_1 S_1 RACK 1

A_1 A_1 I_1 H_4 C_3 R_1 C_3 1st Letter Double RACK 2

A_1 E_1 O_1 D_2 G_2 P_3 G_2 Triple Word Score RACK 3

E_1 E_1 I_1 L_1 B_3 C_3 D_2 RACK 4

PAR SCORE 200-210
BEST SCORE 274

FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

TODAY'S ANSWER

SCRABBLE GRAMS

S_1 U_1 B_3 A_1 T_1 O_1 M_3

A_1 R_1 C_3 H_4 A_1 I_1 C_3

P_3 E_1 D_2 A_1 G_2 O_1 G_2

D_2 E_1 C_3 I_1 B_3 E_1 L_1

PAR SCORE 200-210

SOLUTION
RACK 1 = 61
RACK 2 = 65
RACK 3 = 86
RACK 4 = 62
TOTAL 274

Directions: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 Letter words get 50 point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE players Dictionary, 4th Edition.

Bridge

North dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ J 7
♡ J 10 9 5 3
◇ A
♣ A K J 10 6

WEST
♠ A Q 6
♡ A Q 2
◇ K 9 7 5 3
♣ 7 2

EAST
♠ 10 5 2
♡ 8 7 6 4
◇ 10 6 2
♣ 8 5 4

SOUTH
♠ K 9 8 4 3
♡ K
◇ Q J 8 4
♣ Q 9 3

North	East	South	West
1♡	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	All Pass		

Opening lead – ◇ 5

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I've heard an optimist defined a man who tosses his car keys to a parking valet — and doesn't look back. A defender may be obliged to take an optimistic view: Assume a friendly lie of the cards.

Against 3NT, West led a low diamond: ace, deuce, four. Dummy next led a heart: eight, king, ace. West saw nothing better than to lead another diamond. South captured East's ten, led a club to dummy and returned the jack of hearts. West took the queen and cashed his ace of spades and king of diamonds to hold South to nine tricks.

West had to be an optimist. South's bidding showed about 11 points, so East had zilch. South clearly has plenty of material for nine tricks unless West wins five first. Moreover, after East's discouraging signal at Trick One, West must give up on setting up his diamonds.

West gives the defense a chance by assuming East has the ten of spades. When West takes the ace of hearts, he leads the ace and queen of spades. East-West get two spades, two hearts and a diamond.

Word Force

MAIDENLY

From the word or phrase above, form **AT LEAST 24** five-letter words, without using more than one form of the same word. For example, drink or drank (not both).

ANSWERS IN TOMORROW'S POST
Yesterday's word:
MELLIFLUENT

elfin
elite
feint
filet
fleet
flint
flume
flute
ileum
inlet
unfit
unite
unlit
unmet
untie
until

Wonderword

How to play: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **Circle their letters only. Do not circle the word.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CHAPPELL ROAN (MUSICIAN) Solution: 8 letters

Z	T	H	G	I	N	D	I	M	R	E	T	F	A	L
E	T	S	B	U	L	C	Y	N	O	P	K	N	I	P
R	T	U	I	E	M	I	T	N	A	E	M	V	D	F
U	O	S	T	N	E	C	N	A	D	U	E	K	E	E
S	U	N	I	S	G	I	W	D	P	B	A	A	M	M
A	R	R	A	T	M	A	T	B	A	R	H	Y	L	I
E	S	A	E	I	R	A	E	B	M	Y	C	L	A	N
L	H	L	F	D	P	A	K	A	S	A	S	E	I	I
P	O	U	A	G	T	C	W	C	L	M	I	I	C	N
Y	T	P	N	R	U	B	I	E	U	V	R	G	O	O
T	T	O	S	L	I	R	L	B	N	E	A	H	S	M
L	O	P	D	T	Y	V	L	B	E	T	T	E	R	E
I	G	O	T	L	R	A	A	L	A	U	S	A	C	N
U	O	E	O	L	O	S	R	C	O	F	F	E	E	O
G	R	A	M	M	Y	B	D	D	A	L	L	A	B	N

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After Midnight, Album, Amstutz, Award, Ballad, Best New Artist, Better, Bitter, Bold, Casual, Coffee, Dance, Days, Fans, Femininomenon, Good Luck Babe, Grammy, Guilty Pleasure, Hot To Go, Karma, Kayleigh, Lacy, Live, Lyrics, Meantime, Piano, Pink Pony Club, Popular, Sing, Social Media, Solo, Star, Tours, Upbeat, Viral, Wigs, Willard

Yesterday's Answer: Line Up

For **WONDERWORD** apps, books & more, visit Wonderword.com, or call 1-855-232-2367.

POST SU DOKU

To solve a Su Doku, you must put a number from 1 to 9, in each empty box.

Each number must appear once in each horizontal row, as well as in each vertical column and in each of the 3-by-3 grids. Impossible? Not once you get the hang of it. Tips and in depth strategies at

www.SudokuWiki.org

PLAY MORE GAMES!
NYPOST.COM/GAMES

Solutions on Page 40

© Syndicated Puzzles

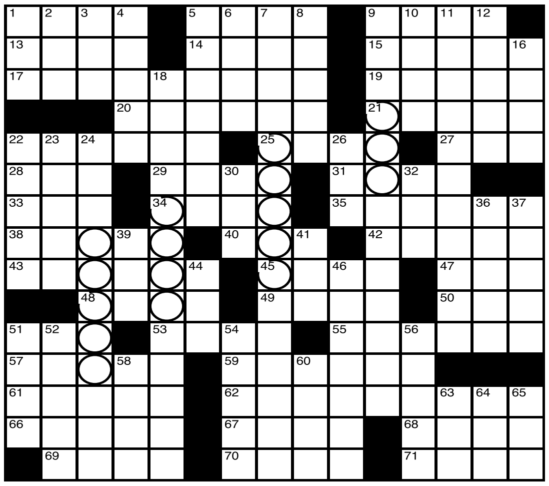
Very Easy #7,327

1	9		2					
	2			8				
4			6	7	3		9	
6	3							1
5	4	2	1		8	6	3	7
9							2	5
	7		4	3	5			6
				6			7	
					9		8	3

Difficult #7,117

		4			7	9	5	
		2						6
			2				8	
6				4				
	8		9	5	1		4	
				3				1
	3				6			
1						5		
	6	9	3			4		

Quick Crossword



Across
1 Jazzy improvisation
5 Taylor-Joy of "The Queen's Gambit"
9 Whimper
13 Vulgar one
14 Bird on the Canadian dollar coin
15 Hard to erase, perhaps
17 "Today was rough"
19 High cost for the Super Bowl
20 "... at the very least"
21 Dame introduction?
22 "Parks and Recreation" town
25 Red friend of Cookie Monster
27 Was first
28 "Close enough"
29 Yemen port that faces the Somaliland port Berbera
31 "I am in this meme"
33 Checkpoint for the terminally on line?
34 Banh mi spread
35 Fashion week focus
38 Health insurance giant
40 Update from a Lyft driver
42 Big mad and not hiding it
43 Floor connectors
45 Architect's constraint, for short
47 Feminine pronoun
48 Meaty sauce
49 Engrave on glass
50 Kilt companion
51 HS fundraiser
53 Very, informally
55 Ocean escapades?
57 Command to attack
59 Middle-distance runners
61 Bracelet spot
62 Potbelly that needs constant feeding?
66 Oktoberfest souvenir
67 Bread for an Italian sandwich?
68 Boo-boo
69 "Like, yesterday"
70 "The Pat McAfee Show" network
71 Turow book set at Harvard

Down
1 Sac fly result
2 Atom with a sign
3 Adversary
4 Refrigerant trademark since the 1930s
5 Tree-lined walkway
6 NYC nabe below Union Square
7 Skeptical remark
8 Figure in a halo
9 Key influencers?
10 Go back a step
11 Engage in some strength training, or what this puzzle's circled letters do
12 First page of el calendario
16 Peachy follower
18 Cartesian concept that questions the reality of waking life
22 Deli pockets
23 Portfolio piece
24 "Can you believe this scam?"
26 Prefix with day or way
30 __ shadow
32 Umami enhancer, briefly
36 Dane introduction?
37 Social rules
39 Actress Vardalos
41 Fitting
44 Long sammich
46 Level of authority
51 Spots for education?
52 Subtle hair dyes
54 Awards ceremony host
56 Childish comeback
58 Director Kazan
60 Take part in an outdoor fantasy game
63 Possess
64 Contend (for)
65 Nigiri topper never served raw

■	B	A	H	■	P	I	C	S	■	A	B	A	S	H
H	I	L	O	■	U	T	A	H	■	S	U	I	T	E
T	S	K	S	■	P	I	P	E	■	S	T	R	U	M
T	H	A	T	S	A	S	T	R	E	T	C	H	■	■
P	O	L	I	T	E	■	C	P	A	■	H	O	O	K
S	P	I	N	E	■	W	H	A	T	N	E	R	V	E
■	■	■	G	R	A	T	A	■	E	A	R	N	E	D
S	S	W	■	O	L	A	■	U	R	I	■	S	R	S
A	L	I	B	I	S	■	S	T	Y	L	E	■	■	■
L	I	N	E	D	A	N	C	E	■	A	M	B	I	T
E	D	D	Y	■	C	O	O	■	U	R	B	A	N	E
■	■	M	O	V	E	M	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	S
O	P	I	N	E	■	A	P	R	S	■	S	L	I	T
D	O	L	C	E	■	D	U	D	E	■	S	E	E	S
A	D	L	E	R	■	S	P	U	R	■	Y	D	S	■

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Marts stumble

Stocks finished with modest losses on Wednesday as shares of Nvidia, Intel and other chipmakers pulled the market lower. The blue-chip Dow hit an intraday record of 52,742.66 before losing steam.

Hiring slows

Private-sector hiring grew slightly below expectations in June, with companies adding a net 98,000 jobs, below economist expectations of 110,000, according to ADP.

Goog $2B hit

A Swedish court ordered Alphabet's Google to pay Klarna $1.97 billion in damages after the buy-now pay-later company won an antitrust case alleging the search giant engaged in anti-competitive practices.

Digital shift

Sony said it will stop producing physical discs for all new games released on PlayStation consoles from January 2028, marking a full shift to digital distribution as consumer purchases continue to move online.

Cat targeted

Caterpillar shares dropped 7% after investor and AI short-seller Michael Burry announced the maker of heavy machinery was among his new bearish bets.

Sources: Reuters, Dow Jones, AP

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'Eau' les températures!

As youths dive into the Seine in Paris amid France's record heat wave, Jamie Dimon's JPMorgan is betting that the ordeal will end the French aversion to air conditioning.

Getty Images

JPM hot to grab French A/C giant

By JAMES FRANEY

As France boils under record summer temperatures, the race is on for Idex, a French main cooling and heating network operator, and JPMorgan Chase is currently leading the competition.

JPMorgan, led by CEO Jamie Dimon, has reportedly emerged as the front-runner to buy the company for at least $3.5 billion from Paris private equity firm Antin Infrastructure Partners in spite of a widespread French cultural aversion to air-conditioning, Bloomberg reported.

JPMorgan Chase's Asset & Wealth Management division, led by Mary Erdoes, reportedly looks set to beat Canada's CPP Investments to the company that keeps Paris' business district, La Defense, from turning into a sauna as suited-up French bankers sweat over what the government is going to tax next.

Enduring the heat

Temperatures have repeatedly topped 104 degrees Fahrenheit in recent days, with official figures showing at least 1,000 excess deaths tied to the heat.

It's put French — and European — disdain for A/C to the test, with even the tree-hugging Greens conceding some air-conditioning may be unavoidable, the BBC reported.

While French elites have spent years wagging fingers at air-conditioning as American excess and bad for the planet, regular Parisians have been left sweating through hotels and apartments with little more than open windows and a shrug.

Reps for JPMorgan and Antic declined to comment.

American tourists have been puzzled by their oldest ally's aversion — until now — to Arctic blasts of ice-cold air.

As many as 9 in 10 American homes have air conditioning, compared to just under 1 in 5 French households.

The A/C wars have even gripped the French parliament ahead of next May's presidential election.

jfraney@nypost.com

TRADE PACT DEAD

Don nixes USMCA

By STEVEN NELSON

President Trump has decided not to renew the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement trade pact that he negotiated during his first term, US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said Wednesday.

Trump celebrated the USMCA, which replaced NAFTA, as "truly fair and reciprocal" when he signed the deal in 2020, but he has recently been more critical, making the action unsurprising.

"We think there are substantial issues," Greer told Bloomberg News in an interview shortly before a scheduled call with a broader group of news outlets at which an official who declined to be identified by name made the same point.

The USMCA won't actually expire for at least 10 years, well after Trump leaves office, but the nonrenewal triggers a decade of limbo featuring annual renegotiation, starting with a July 20 summit.

The official who refused to be quoted by name said that Trump's decision was primarily motivated by US trade deficits with Canada and Mexico.

"The USMCA did not operate to control the deficit like the president intended, so that's really the heart of it," the official said. "And part of it also extends to market access opportunities in Canada and Mexico."

The official cited batting down Canadian tariffs on US dairy products and Mexican interest in tariffing US corn as areas of focus, along with adopting a new rule requiring cars made in Canada and Mexico to have a certain percentage of US-origin material to be exempted from tariffs.

'Tighten those rules'

"We think we need to tighten those [car origin] rules, and we think we need to have similar robust rules for other industrial goods outside of the automotive space, and we've heard from the Mexicans that they are interested in this," he said.

"Our expectation, too, is that some of these rules of origin, we do expect to have some US content level ... What we don't want is a situation where we make a deal with Mexico, we have tariffs on the rest of the world ... and [companies are] going to move everything to Mexico and import it to the US duty-free."

The official also said the nonrenewal actually wasn't as major as it seems.

"He's already, I would say, subsumed USMCA under new trade and tariff policies," the official said, adding, "We've been working, particularly with the Mexicans, over the past year to resolve a lot of issues that have been there."

New Microsoft hard ax due

Microsoft is reportedly planning yet another round of layoffs that will slash thousands of roles next week in an effort to cut costs, as concerns about out-of-control AI spending mount.

Less than 2.5% of the company's 220,000-person workforce — or fewer than 5,500 workers — will be axed from the sales and consulting divisions, as well as Xbox's gaming unit, according to Business Insider.

The Redmond, Wash.-based software giant plans to announce the layoff round next week, just after the start of its new fiscal year on Wednesday, although the timing could change, sources told the outlet. Some impacted employees will be offered new roles within the company immediately.

Microsoft, helmed by CEO Satya Nadella (right), declined to comment.

It would mark its third major round of layoffs in just over a year, after slashing 6,000 jobs last May and another 9,000 — or 4% of its workforce — last July.

Amid the rapid rise of AI, the company has been facing both concerns that it's spending too much on the new tech — with commitments of $190 billion on new infrastructure over the coming years — and fears that bots could render traditional software tools obsolete.

Taylor Herzlich

That's a bit betta on Meta

Meta shares jumped nearly 9% Wednesday following a report the company is planning to sell excess computing power, allowing it to recover some of the billions of dollars it has sunk into AI.

The Menlo Park, Calif., tech giant, which has rushed to secure pricey data centers and chips, is building a new cloud business to sell access to its AI models, according to Bloomberg.

It's welcome news for investors, who have grown anxious over whether Meta will be able to deliver returns on the hundreds of billions of dollars it has spent to build up coveted computing power, with a goal of developing "superintelligence."

Shares of Meta, which declined to comment, are still down 7% this year.

The new cloud business would allow Meta to generate revenue on any leftover capacity, while setting it up to compete with industry leaders like Amazon, Microsoft, Google, CoreWeave and SpaceX.

CEO Mark Zuckerberg has repeatedly insisted that it's crucial for the company to build up as much computing capacity as possible and consider its use later, since supply is limited — but in May, he signaled an openness to selling excess power. *Taylor Herzlich*

Warsh and wary

Fed boss keeps lips zipped on rate hikes

By TAYLOR HERZLICH

We will deliver 'stability'

Federal Reserve boss Kevin Warsh, at a meeting Wednesday in Portugal, said he will not tolerate inflation above 2%, but didn't indicate if that meant he wants to raise interest rates.

Reuters

Federal Reserve Chairman Kevin Warsh said Wednesday that inflation risks have eased over the past few weeks, but stayed mum on the odds of interest-rate hikes in the latest sign that he will be more tight-lipped than his predecessor.

At a European Central Bank conference in Sintra, Portugal — his first appearance as chairman since the Fed's meeting in June — Warsh said inflation risks "have come down" although he argued there's more work to be done.

"If there were people in households, the business sector, the financial markets, who thought that this central bank was gonna be comfortable with an inflation objective above 2%, I guess they'd be disappointed," Warsh said. "We're gonna deliver price stability in the US."

An aggressive anti-inflation approach would imply interest-rate hikes, not cuts — a reversal from last year, when Warsh hit central bankers for not slashing rates fast enough after three quarter-point cuts.

But the economic landscape has shifted drastically since then.

Higher energy prices amid the war in Iran pushed inflation above 4% while the labor market remained surprisingly resilient.

Economists have warned that the rapid buildout of AI data centers could keep inflation stubbornly elevated, turning officials' attention away from employment.

When pressed on whether inflation fears demand a response from central bankers, Warsh said: "I'm not going to make a judgment now."

"There's a lot of late breaking news on a series of these things. When we get into that room and shut the door, we're going to have a good debate," he added.

Warsh has argued that financial markets perform best when they react to actual data, not the Fed's interpretation of the numbers — and Wednesday, he dismissed concerns that a less outspoken Fed could leave markets in the dark.

"I hear this as if people don't understand. I think they understand quite well," he said.

After his remarks Wednesday, traders priced in a 30% chance the Fed will hike interest rates at its July 29 meeting, up from just 6% odds a month ago.

Gen. Mills (h)eating up

General Mills posted better-than-expected fourth-quarter results on Wednesday, helped by higher prices and resilient demand for pantry staples, sending its shares up 9%.

Budget-conscious consumers, pressured by still-high inflation are increasingly eating at home. Packaged food makers like General Mills have pushed through price increases to protect margins from higher input costs.

Now that price cuts are mostly complete, General Mills is looking for growth from new protein- and fiber-heavy offerings, along with bolder flavors.

Quarterly net sales in General Mills' largest North America Retail segment, which includes brands such as Cheerios, Pillsbury and Betty Crocker, declined 4% — less steep than the 10% slump a year earlier. *Wires*

'Auto' immune to woes

Automakers on Wednesday reported steady second-quarter US vehicle sales, despite what normally would be a bleak backdrop for the car business.

Since early spring, Americans have confronted sharply higher gas prices, an uptick in inflation, unease over jobs, and jitters over the Iran war. And yet, vehicle sales are expected to be flat from a year earlier, at 4.16 million vehicles sold, according to Cox Automotive.

General Motors reported a 4% year-over-year decline, but did see increases in sales of the GMC Sierra truck and more affordable offerings including the Buick Envista. Rival Stellantis saw a 6% increase in sales on the back of strong Ram truck sales. Hybrids boosted sales for Toyota and Hyundai in the quarter, which were up 1% and 4%, respectively. *Reuters*

A new way to use AI?

Elon Musk's SpaceX has developed a prototype for a handset-like device designed to reshape how humans interact with artificial intelligence that SpaceX has shown investors recently.

The company showed the prototype, which features a sleek design that is slimmer than an iPhone, to some investors and other stakeholders ahead of the company's mega initial public offering, The Wall Street Journal reported. "Utterly false," Musk said in a post on X, without elaborating. *Dow Jones*

DJ KHALED
Among celeb backers.

The stars aligning for 'nic'

As nicotine pouches take off in parts of corporate America, with some tech employers handing them out to workers to boost productivity, one startup is expanding its roster of celebrity investors in the hope of taking on deep-pocketed industry leaders like Zyn.

Sesh, which touts itself as one of the few pouch-makers not backed by Big Tobacco, says Grammy-winning DJ Khaled has invested in the company and is promoting its new raspberry lemon flavor.

He joins A-list Sesh investors including Ashton Kutcher, Post Malone, country musician Zach Bryan, electronic music star Diplo, the Jonas Brothers and the Chainsmokers.

The celebs are partnering with Sesh as part of the $40 million it has raised from investors. The global nicotine pouch market is expected to grow from $10 billion this year to $56.7 billion in 2035. *Marc Vartabedian*

$poons' hot debut

Shares of Bending Spoons, an Italian technology company that bought up brands including AOL, Eventbrite and Vimeo, soared nearly 40% higher in their US market debut Wednesday.

Shares closed at $40.50, giving the company founded by four friends a $25 billion valuation.

Bending Spoons' name references a scene in the "The Matrix" when a character appears to do the impossible by bending a spoon with their mind. *Dow Jones*

S. KOREA INTRIGUE

By THOMAS BARRABI

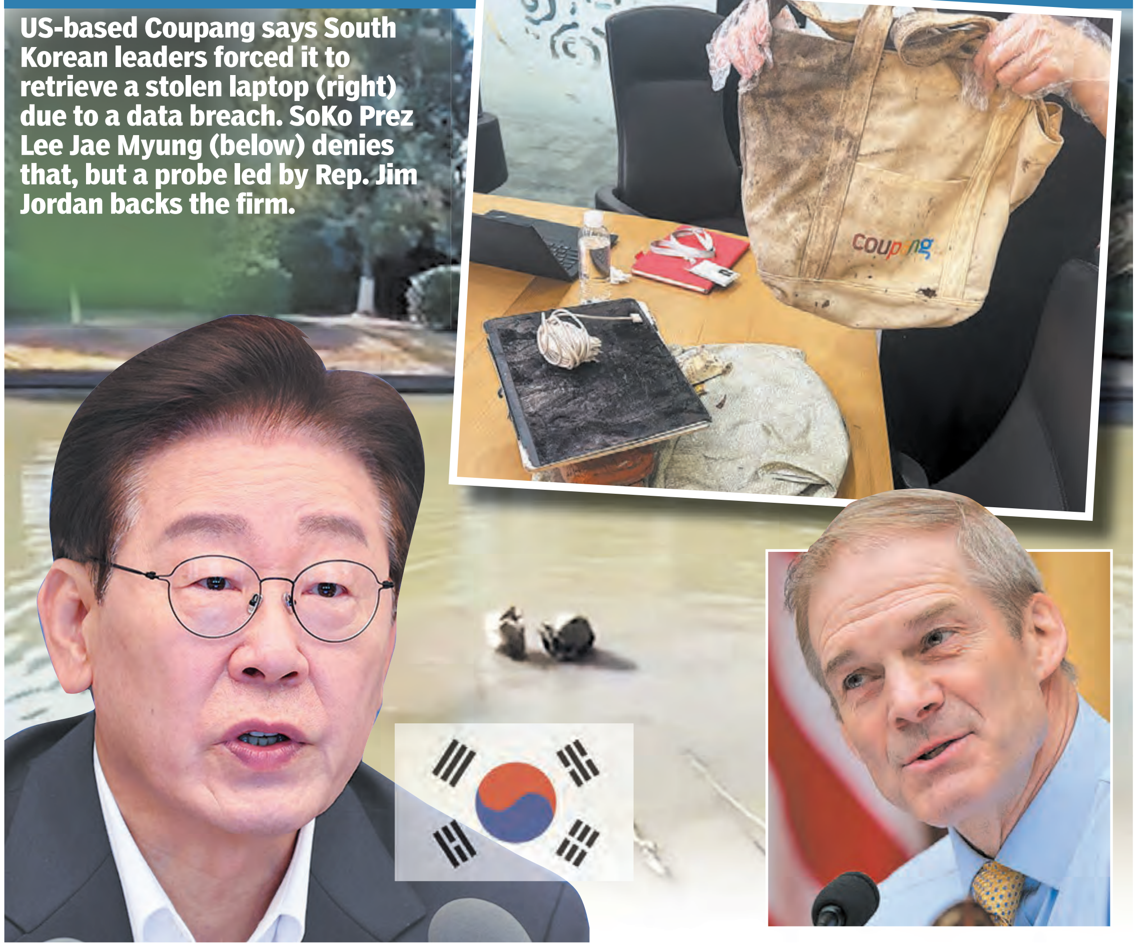
South Korea's government allegedly forced a US web retailer to carry out a bizarre and risky plot to recover a stolen laptop from the bottom of a river in China, part of a high-level data-privacy clampdown that US officials claim is the latest example of the country's anti-American tech regulations run amok.

A House Judiciary Committee report released Wednesday detailed how Seattle-based Coupang — known as the "Amazon of South Korea," where it does 90% of its business — believed it had no choice but to hire scuba divers for the James Bond-style caper as top South Korean regulators pressed for an elaborate probe of a November data breach that affected 33 million customers.

Indeed, while South Korea's National Intelligence Service denied any involvement, Coupang compiled a host of evidence to the contrary, including messages from a senior government aide affirming that South Korea's president had been briefed on the operation.

The "highest levels of the South Korean government, including President Lee Jae Myung himself, knew that the NIS had been closely instructing Coupang on the recovery operation and that Coupang acted in response to these directives," the report said.

James Bond-like order



US-based Coupang says South Korean leaders forced it to retrieve a stolen laptop (right) due to a data breach. SoKo Prez Lee Jae Myung (below) denies that, but a probe led by Rep. Jim Jordan backs the firm.

Shutterstock

US firm's odd & costly laptop recovery mission

'Rogue' staffer

Coupang faced 40 investigations from 11 different South Korean agencies, threats of travel bans for its executives and potential fines of up to 10% of its global revenue, the report said. On June 11, South Korea's Personal Information Protection Commission fined Coupang $410 million — nearly twice its profit last year — after finding that the company had illegally harvested customer data.

The December mission focused on a rogue Coupang employee, a Chinese national who had allegedly extracted the personal data of 3,000 customers — a tiny fraction of the 33 million who were caught in a massive data breach at the company reported on Nov. 27 — and fled to Shanghai, according to the report.

Coupang contacted the rogue employee, who confessed and agreed to turn over several devices linked to the theft — except for a laptop he had tossed into a Shanghai river in a panic, according to the 35-page report, a copy of which was obtained by The Post.

South Korea's NIS allegedly told Coupang that its agents couldn't personally retrieve the devices because Chinese law bars foreign intelligence agencies from operating on its soil. Instead, it ordered Coupang to send one of its own employees to collect the devices and the rogue employee's fingerprints — all under the Chinese government's nose.

A Coupang rep traveled to Shanghai on Dec. 17 to meet with the suspect and his lawyer, who handed over a desktop PC, four hard drives and copies, a graphics card and a signed confession. But the next day, the NIS told Coupang it was still required to recover the missing laptop.

Coupang complied, hiring a scuba-diving team to fish the device out of the grimy water, according to the report.

All of the recovered materials, including the device, the employee's confession and fingerprints, were submitted to a waiting NIS official, who brought them to the nearby Korean consulate in Shanghai. The Coupang employee was told to verify there were "no CCTV cameras to capture the handoff," according to a document cited in the report.

Gov't denied its role

After the "dangerous recovery operation" was deemed a success, South Korea and NIS stunned Coupang officials by denying any participation, according to the report to the House Judiciary Committee, which is chaired by Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Ohio).

Coupang's interim CEO Harold Rogers told House Judiciary officials that he "never would've authorized an employee to go to China" or "authorized hiring a diving crew in broad daylight in China to retrieve a device unless [he] firmly believed that [Coupang] had a legal obligation and a requirement to do so," the report said.

Other evidence included a signed letter from an NIS dated Dec. 2 confirming that Coupang had a legal obligation to comply with its orders. Between Dec. 1 and Dec. 26, the NIS exchanged more than 230 phone calls with Coupang related to its probe into the data breach and also held several in-person meetings with the company about the recovery plan, the report added.

The Coupang operation was part of an effort to hamstring US tech firms that South Korea fears are a threat to homegrown rivals, according to the report. Google's Maps service is banned in the country, while OpenAI, Meta, Apple and Netflix have all faced investigations from South Korean regulators.

"South Korea has weaponized digital laws and regulations to hinder the ability of innovative American companies to effectively compete in its market," added the report, which compared the country's regulatory tactics to those employed by Europe against the US tech industry.

Coupang has said cybersecurity experts who reviewed the breach said it was minor in nature and did not result in harm to customers.

South Korean government officials didn't return requests for comment.

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NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

NASSAU COUNTY
PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Intent RFI#PK0702-2680
This Notice of Intent is posted to advise that Nassau County intends to enter into a sole source agreement with Everything Ice of Salix, PA for services to provide Instant Ice Rink Mats Complete w/ U-Bends and Male Fittings Ready for Installation at Grant Park in Hewlett, NY and Christopher Morley Park in East Hills, NY. Contracted services will include shipping the mats to: County of Nassau Warehouse, 1899 Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow, New York 11554.
The cost for these services are not to exceed $321,769.87.
The County will accept questions or comments regarding the intended contract until Thursday, July 16, 2026 at 4:00 PM.
Questions or comments must be submitted in writing to: Karen Beckhard Ravener, Nassau County Department of Parks, Recreation & Museums at:
KBeckhardravener@nassaucounytny.gov

BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
DARCY A. BELYEA,
COMMISSIONER
NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT
OF PARKS, RECREATION
AND MUSEUMS

NASSAU COUNTY
LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
SEALED BIDS will be publicly opened by the DEPT. OF SHARED SERVICES, COUNTY OF NASSAU, at its office, 1 West Street, Mineola, New York 11501 at 11:00 A.M. (EST) on the date(s) indicated below.
Bid Opening Date:
July 14, 2026
1. Tank Alarm Repair Service;
2. Paper - NCR & Offset.
July 16, 2026
1. K9-Dog Kennels;
2. Globalscape FTP Software Annual Licenses & Support Renewal;
3. Roland VG4-540 54" Truevis Printer/Cutter & Accessories;
4. Tree Trimming Equipment;
5. Kubota Lawn Mowers.
July 28, 2026
1. Drywall & Studs;
2. Pool Equipment Repair, Maintenance and Service.
August 13, 2026
1. Wheel Loader.
All bids must be made on DEPT. OF SHARED SERVICES bidding sheets only, subject to all County terms, conditions and detailed specifications which must be downloaded @https://eproc.nassaucountyny.gov/Login
Dated: July 2, 2026 at Mineola, New York

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NEW YORK POST
Classified Employment Listings

NASSAU COUNTY
LEGAL NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed Proposals, invited by the County of Nassau, will be received by the County Executive of Nassau County, in the office of the Clerk of the Nassau County Legislature, Room 117, in the Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building, 1550 Franklin Avenue, Mineola, New York, on **Tuesday, July 14th, 2026** until 10:30 am, at which time the Proposals were accompanied with and presented separate from the required Bid Security will be publicly opened and read aloud, in the Meeting Room of the Nassau County Legislature, and the contract awarded as soon thereafter as practicable for:

Nassau County Department of Public Works
Traffic Signal System Operations Phase VII
Contract No. T62000-25E
PIN 0761.70

This contract will provide field staff for day-to-day operations and maintenance of the County's on-street traffic signal communications and intelligent transportation systems equipment.
Your bid shall be based upon a Notice to Proceed to be issued in the 1st Quarter of 2027.
All questions regarding this contract shall be submitted via email prior to 4:00 pm on Friday, June 12th, 2026, to Jeff Lindgren at jlindgren@nassaucountyny.gov.
No interpretation of the meaning of the Drawings, Specifications or other Contract Documents will be made to any Bidder orally. Prospective bidders must request in writing such interpretation from the Commissioner and such interpretation will be given in writing in the form of written addenda, to all prospective bidders, in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders, Item G.
Project has federal funding. Federal reporting and NYSDOT record keeping requirements are included as part of the contract documents.
This Contract will be subject to Nassau County Local Laws No. 14-2002, "Participation by Minority Group Members and Women in Nassau County Contracts," which requires submission of a Utilization plan prior to the award of a County contract, No. 2-2016, "Participation of Service-Disabled Veterans in County Contracts," and No. 9-2002, as amended by No. 3-2015, which require that firms entering into contracts with Nassau County must participate in registered and approved apprenticeship training programs unless such requirement are supplanted by requirements specified in the bidding instructions. At the time of bid submission, the Contractor shall submit, as part of its bid, documents in compliance with Title 51 of the Nassau County Miscellaneous Laws demonstrating participation in approved apprenticeship training programs that are appropriate for the type and scope of work to be performed pursuant to the Contract. Such apprenticeship training programs appropriate for the scope of this Contract shall include, but are not limited to the following: Laborers, Electricians, Operating Engineers, or any other trade appropriate for the type of work proposed. The apprenticeship training programs shall be registered with, and approved by, the New York State Commissioner of Labor in accordance with Article 23 of the New York State Labor Law. Note that if the Contractor does not comply with these requirements, the Commissioner may declare the Contractor's bid proposal non-responsive and award the Contract to the next lowest responsible Bidder.
Instructions to Bidders, Form of Bid Bond, Proposal, Form of Agreement, Specifications and the Plans, herein called the "Contract Documents", may be examined at the Permit Office of the Department of Public Works, first floor, 1194 Prospect Avenue, Westbury, Nassau County, New York, 11590-2723, Phone No. (516) 571-6840, from 9:00 AM on Friday, May 29th, 2026 until 3:45 PM on Friday, June 26th, 2026 (closed from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM and on County Holidays). Copies of the Bid Contract Documents for use in bidding will be available for purchase at the Permit Office. Furthermore, a downloadable set of the technical specifications (NOT to be used for bidding) can be found on the County solicitation board at no charge for all registered users at: https://apex5.nassaucountyny.gov/ords/f?p=533:226. To access these documents, click on the "Vendor Portal" link. Once you are in the Vendor Portal, click on "Nassau County Procurement," and, under "Formal Solicitation," access and download the Request for Bid Contract documents.
In order to submit a bid, a non-refundable fee of $300.00 by check or money order, payable to the Nassau County Treasurer, will be required for each set of Bid Contract Documents purchased from the Permit Office. Prospective bidders requesting Contract Documents by mail must remit an additional, non- refundable, fee of $30.00 per set to cover handling and first-class mailing.
ONLY BID CONTRACT DOCUMENTS PURCHASED FROM THE PERMIT OFFICE IN THIS MANNER WILL BE ACCEPTED/CONSIDERED.
Vendors doing business with Nassau County, including those responding to this solicitation, must register with the County. The Nassau County Bid Solicitation Boards are open to all registered vendors. Vendors that have not registered are able to view open solicitation opportunities, but they are not able to download solicitation documents or submit bids or proposals.
To complete the registration process, please click on the New Vendor registration link: https://apex5.nassaucountyny.gov/ords/f?p=CEVM:VREG
SUBCONTRACTOR LISTS - In accordance with GML § 101, for projects (1) to which a project labor agreement applies, (Labor Law Section 222) and, additionally, (2) on a public work contract for which separate specifications have not been prepared, each Bidder shall submit with its bid a separate sealed list on the forms provided with the proposal forms that names each subcontractor (for the enumerated work, if applicable) that the Bidder intends to use to perform work on the contract. Notwithstanding the forgoing, all subcontractors must be approved by the Commissioner in writing prior to such subcontractor's performance of any work.
MWBE UTILIZATION PLAN - In accordance with Title 53, Nassau County Local Law No.14- 2002, all bidders shall submit a MWBE Utilization Plan with their bid.
All Vendors shall submit a Completed Appendix C: Offeror's Affirmation of Understanding of and Agreement Pursuant to State Finance law § 139-j(3) and § 139-j(6)(b).
All references to DBE Goals in this Bid Proposal are not applicable to this project.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR BIDDERS
Effective immediately, no Contractor may submit a bid for public work in New York State unless they are registered with the NYS Department of Labor. Bids received from unregistered Contractors shall be deemed non-responsive. Additionally, no Subcontractor may commence work on a public work project unless they are registered with the NYS Department of Labor. Requests for approval of unregistered Subcontractors will be denied. Further information is available at Public Work Contractor and Subcontractor Registry Landing | Department of Labor.
Security for Bid as set forth herein must be presented with the Bid.
"FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED SECURITY WILL RENDER THE BIDDER NON- RESPONSIVE AND THE BID WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED, OPENED OR READ ALOUD. IN ADDITION, FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED SUBCONTRACTOR INFORMATION AT THE TIME OF BID OPENING MAY RENDER THE BIDDER NON-RESPONSIVE".
Dated at Mineola, LI,
June 29th, 2026
By Order of County Executive, Bruce A. Blakeman
By Michael C. Pulitzer, Clerk of the Legislature

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTIONS
PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE
OF NEW YORK OF NEW YORK CITY TAXICAB MEDALLIONS

In accordance with the Uniform Commercial Code as adopted in the State of New York, TML IV LLC ("Lender") will sell at public auction the following property of certain debtors:

New York City Taxi Medallion Nos. (collectively, the "Collateral"):

1P23	1P24	1P25	2J75	7G25
3J83	3J84	3N98	3N99	4J12
4J13	5A57	8K69	8K70	8N13
		8N14	8N15	

1. Time and Place of Auction: The Auctions will be held on July 23, 2026 at 11:00 a.m., prevailing Eastern Time. The Auctions will take place solely via video conference. Only parties intending to bid at the Auctions will be permitted to participate. Persons wishing to attend the Auctions must contact Reed Smith LLP, counsel to Lender ("Reed Smith"), at MedallionAuction@reedsmith.com at least two (2) business days prior to the scheduled time of the Auctions to obtain details for attending, and must provide (i) a copy of their driver's license or other photo identification and (ii) an acknowledgment that they must pay the Deposit (as defined below) in the form of a certified or bank check or wire transfer of immediately available funds. Parties unable to attend the Auctions by video conference due to technological limitations, must contact Reed Smith at least five (5) days prior to the scheduled time of the Auctions so that other arrangements can be made. The Auctions will be conducted by Reed Smith.

2. Terms of Sale: Any party wishing to bid must provide to Lender at least two (2) business days prior to the scheduled time of the Auctions an executed acknowledgement of the terms of sale, which include, among other terms: (a) a requirement that, in Lender's discretion, each bidder must submit proof of financial wherewithal and qualifications to acquire one or more of the Medallions; (b) any successful bidder shall be required to deposit, in immediately available funds, an initial sum equal to $10,000 (the "Deposit") prior to commencement of the Auction and to increase its deposit to an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the price bid by such bidder within forty-eight (48) hours after conclusion of the Auctions; and (c) any prevailing bidder must close by 5:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern Time on the forty-fifth (45th) day after the conclusion of the Auctions or at such other time as may be agreed by Lender and the prevailing bidder. Lender reserves the right to exclude from the Auctions any bidder that fails to comply with this requirement. The complete terms of sale are available upon request. Lender reserves the right to alter the terms of sale at any time.

3. Selection of Winning Bid(s): Lender shall determine which bid, or combination of bids, are the highest or best bid for the Medallions. Lender reserves the rights to: (a) bid all or a portion of its claim(s) against the owner(s) of the Medallions at the Auctions without cash or Deposit as required of other bidders; (b) alter the terms of payment; (c) abandon or elect not to dispose of certain Collateral; and/or (d) reject all bids.

4. No Representations : The Collateral being auctioned is being sold "AS IS", "WITH ALL FAULTS" and "WITHOUT REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND." There is no warranty relating to title, possession, quiet enjoyment, or the like in this disposition. By executing the Terms of Sale, bidders represent and warrant to Lender that they have the experience to acquire and own assets of the sort being sold, and have conducted all necessary due diligence, including without limitation diligence concerning as to whether there exist any fines, violations, or unpaid taxes with respect to the Collateral, prior to the commencement of the Auctions. The Collateral may be sold with other similar assets during the Auction.

NOTICE OF SALE OF COOPERATIVE APARTMENT SECURITY
BY VIRTUE OF A DEFAULT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: By virtue of a default under a Security Agreement dated February 20, 2018, executed by Gian Reto Moor and Victoria Moor ("Debtor"), as assigned to Citibank, N.A. ("Secured Party"), said Secured Party, by Auctioneer(s): Terence Gee, John William O'Keefe or Stephan G. Marcelin, will conduct a public sale of the security consisting of 1435 shares of stock of 333 East 91st Street Owners Corp. ("Corporation"), and all right, title, and interest in and to a Proprietary Lease between said Corporation and Debtor for the apartment known as 333 East 91st Street, Apt 18C, New York, NY 10128, together with all fixtures and articles of personal property now or hereafter affixed to or used in connection with said apartment on **July 7, 2026 at 1:30 pm** at the Portico of the New York County Courthouse, 60 Centre St, New York, NY 10007, in satisfaction of an indebtedness in the unpaid principal amount of $538,850.68, plus interest, late fees, attorney fees, maintenance in arrears, and all other advanced charges.

The apartment is sold "AS IS" AND POSSESSION TO BE OBTAINED BY THE PURCHASER. Said sale is subject to residence requirements of the Corporation, payment of all sums due, if any, to 333 East 91st Street Owners Corp., and the consent if necessary, of said Corporation; any existing tenancy; payment of all expenses and fees of the secured party with respect thereto; terms of sale and auctioneer's fees; flip-tax; State, City, and County transfer tax. The Secured Party reserves the right to bid.

Terms: an official bank or certified check made payable to Stern & Eisenberg, P.C., as attorneys for the Secured Party for ten (10%) percent of price bid. No cash accepted. Balance shall be due within thirty (30) days.

ATTORNEYS FOR SECURED PARTY:
Stern & Eisenberg, P.C.
20 Commerce Drive, Suite 230, Cranford, NJ 07016, and
1131 Route 55, Suite 1, Lagrangeville, NY 12540
P. 516-630-0288
F. 732-726-8719

Dated: June 8, 2026

Firm File No. NY202500000183-9

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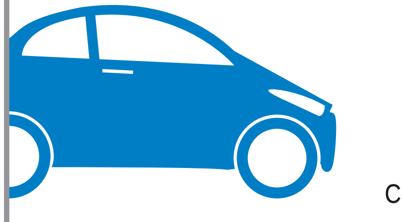

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NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

SUMMONS AND NOTICE
SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK RICHMOND COUNTY

NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST AND THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, AS COLLATERAL AGENT AND CUSTODIAN, Plaintiffs, v. The heirs-at-law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, assignees, lienors, creditors, successors-ininterest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through ANNA BARILE, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and all creditors thereof, and the respective husbands, or widowers of hers, if any, all of whose names and addresses are unknown to plaintiffs; RICHARD BIANCHI; STEPHEN BIANCHI; MARY BARILE; KATHLEEN WAGNER; MARYANN CHUHINKO; CAROLYN HARDING; ROSEANN CHIN; PATRICIA BARILE; RICHARD BARILE A/K/A RICHARD DEMATTI; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU and “JOHN DOE #1” THROUGH “JOHN DOE #100” the names of the last 100 defendants being fictitious, the true names of said defendants being unknown to plaintiffs, it being intended to designate fee owners, tenants or occupants of the liened premises and/or persons or parties having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the liened premises, if the aforesaid individual defendants are living, and if any or all of said individual defendants be dead, their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, committees, devisees, legatees, and the assignees, lienors, creditors and successors in interest of them, and generally all persons having or claiming under, by, through, or against the said defendants named as a class, of any right, title or interest in or lien upon the premises described in the complaint herein, Defendants. Index No. 150623/2022 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in the above-entitled foreclosure action, and to serve a copy of your answer on Plaintiffs’ attorney within thirty (30) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner than by personal service within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint. Richmond County is designated as the place of trial. The basis of venue is the location of the subject premises. TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an Order of Honorable Paul Marrone, Jr., a Justice of the Supreme Court, dated June 11, 2026, and filed with supporting papers, in the Richmond County Clerk’s Office/NYSCEF on June 11, 2026 at Doc. No. 29. This is an action to foreclose tax liens covering the property known as Freeborn Street, Staten Island, New York and identified as Block 3800, Lot 19 (the “Tax Parcel”). The relief sought is the sale of the Tax Parcel at public auction in satisfaction of the tax liens. In case of your failure to appear, judgment may be taken against you in the sum of $6,011.75, together with interest from August 2, 2019, costs, disbursements and attorneys’ fees of this action, and directing the public sale of the Tax Parcel. Dated: June 22, 2026 PHILLIPS LYTLE LLP By: /s/ Anthony J. Iacchetta Attorneys for Plaintiffs NYCTL 1998-2 Trust and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Collateral Agent and Custodian 100 South Clinton Avenue, Suite 2900 Rochester, New York 14604 Telephone No.: (585) 238-2000 aiacchetta@phillipslytle.com

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTIONS PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE OF NEW YORK OF NEW YORK CITY TAXICAB MEDALLIONS

In accordance with the Uniform Commercial Code as adopted in the State of New York, DePalma Acquisition I LLC (“Lender”) will sell at public auction the following property of certain debtors:

New York City Taxi Medallion Nos. (collectively, the “Collateral”):
2A71

1. Time and Place of Auction: The Auctions will be held on July 23, 2026 at 11:00 a.m., prevailing Eastern Time. The Auctions will take place solely via video conference. Only parties intending to bid at the Auctions will be permitted to participate. Persons wishing to attend the Auctions must contact Reed Smith LLP, counsel to Lender (“Reed Smith”), at MedallionAuction@reedsmith.com at least two (2) business days prior to the scheduled time of the Auctions to obtain details for attending, and must provide (i) a copy of their driver’s license or other photo identification and (ii) an acknowledgment that they must pay the Deposit (as defined below) in the form of a certified or bank check or wire transfer of immediately available funds. Parties unable to attend the Auctions by video conference due to technological limitations, must contact Reed Smith at least five (5) days prior to the scheduled time of the Auctions so that other arrangements can be made. The Auctions will be conducted by Reed Smith.

2. Terms of Sale: Any party wishing to bid must provide to Lender at least two (2) business days prior to the scheduled time of the Auctions an executed acknowledgement of the terms of sale, which include, among other terms: (a) a requirement that, in Lender’s discretion, each bidder must submit proof of financial wherewithal and qualifications to acquire one or more of the Medallions; (b) any successful bidder shall be required to deposit, in immediately available funds, an initial sum equal to $10,000 (the “Deposit”) prior to commencement of the Auction and to increase its deposit to an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the price bid by such bidder within forty-eight (48) hours after conclusion of the Auctions; and (c) any prevailing bidder must close by 5:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern Time on the forty-fifth (45th) day after the conclusion of the Auctions or at such other time as may be agreed by Lender and the prevailing bidder. Lender reserves the right to exclude from the Auctions any bidder that fails to comply with this requirement. The complete terms of sale are available upon request. Lender reserves the right to alter the terms of sale at any time.

3. Selection of Winning Bid(s): Lender shall determine which bid, or combination of bids, are the highest or best bid for the Medallions. Lender reserves the rights to: (a) bid all or a portion of its claim(s) against the owner(s) of the Medallions at the Auctions without cash or Deposit as required of other bidders; (b) alter the terms of payment; (c) abandon or elect not to dispose of certain Collateral; and/or (d) reject all bids.

4. No Representations: The Collateral being auctioned is being sold “AS IS”, “WITH ALL FAULTS” and “WITHOUT REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND.” There is no warranty relating to title, possession, quiet enjoyment, or the like in this disposition. By executing the Terms of Sale, bidders represent and warrant to Lender that they have the experience to acquire and own assets of the sort being sold, and have conducted all necessary due diligence, including without limitation diligence concerning as to whether there exist any fines, violations, or unpaid taxes with respect to the Collateral, prior to the commencement of the Auctions. The Collateral may be sold with other similar assets during the Auction.

NOTICE OF SALE OF COOPERATIVE APARTMENT SECURITY BY VIRTUE OF A DEFAULT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: By virtue of a default under a Security Agreement dated October 27, 2010, executed by David O. Currier (“Debtor”), as assigned to CitiMortgage, Inc. (“Secured Party”), said Secured Party, by Auctioneer(s): Terence Gee, John William O’Keefe or Stephan G. Marcelin, will conduct a public sale of the security consisting of 740 shares of stock of The Opera Owners, Inc. (“Corporation”), and all right, title, and interest in and to a Proprietary Lease between said Corporation and Debtor for the apartment known as 2166 Broadway, Unit 22B, New York, NY 10024, together with all fixtures and articles of personal property now or hereafter affixed to or used in connection with said apartment on July 7, 2026 at 1:00 pm at the Portico of the New York County Courthouse, 60 Centre St, New York, NY 10007, in satisfaction of an indebtedness in the unpaid principal amount of $94,207.40, plus interest, late fees, attorney fees, maintenance in arrears, and all other advanced charges.

The apartment is sold "AS IS" AND POSSESSION TO BE OBTAINED BY THE PURCHASER. Said sale is subject to residence requirements of the Corporation, payment of all sums due, if any, to The Opera Owners, Inc., and the consent if necessary, of said Corporation; any existing tenancy; payment of all expenses and fees of the secured party with respect thereto; terms of sale and auctioneer’s fees; flip-tax; State, City, and County transfer tax. The Secured Party reserves the right to bid.

Terms: an official bank or certified check made payable to Stern & Eisenberg, P.C., as attorneys for the Secured Party for ten (10%) percent of price bid. No cash accepted. Balance shall be due within thirty (30) days.

ATTORNEYS FOR SECURED PARTY:
Stern & Eisenberg, P.C.
20 Commerce Drive, Suite 230, Cranford, NJ 07016, and
1131 Route 55, Suite 1, Lagrangeville, NY 12540
P. 516-630-0288
F. 732-726-8719

Dated: June 8, 2026

Firm File No. NY202300000402-2

4th of July Early Deadlines for Classified

Publication Date	Ad Deadline
Fri. July 3rd - Mon. July 6th	Thurs. July 2 11:30AM

We will be closed on Friday, July 3rd, 2026

Enjoy Your Holiday!

NEW YORK POST

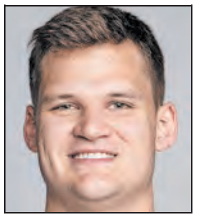
Lakers add quartet after LeBron exits

By KHOBI PRICE

LeBron James may be on his way out, but the Lakers made a quartet of moves — totaling $263 million — Wednesday.

The Lakers traded for restricted free agent center Walker Kessler, who will sign a four-year, $130 million deal from the Jazz, and signed big man Sandro Mamukelashvili and guards Quentin Grimes and Collin Sexton.

Securing a top-notch big man was one of the Lakers’ biggest priorities entering the offseason. And they did that in landing Kessler for unprotected first-round picks in 2031 and 2033 and first-round swaps in 2028 and 2030.



WALKER KESSLER

Kessler, along with Pistons star big man Jalen Duren, who’s also a restricted free agent, was among the Lakers’ top targets this offseason to pair alongside Luka Doncic and Austin Reaves.

And because they agreed on the trade instead of dealing with an offer sheet, the Lakers have secured their big man of the present and future, signing the ideal center who fits the archetype of centers Doncic thrives alongside.

Kessler has averaged 9.5 points, 9.3 rebounds and 2.4 blocks in 25.3 minutes across 201 regular-season games since the Jazz drafted him with the No. 22 pick in the 2022 draft.

He’s been one of the NBA’s best rim protectors since entering the league out of Auburn.

Kessler ranked in the top seven of defensive field goal percentage difference allowed within six feet of the rim in each of his first three seasons, including No. 3 as a rookie and No. 3 as a second-year player.

Kessler averaged a double-double (11.1 points and 12.2 rebounds to go with 2.4 blocks) in his first season as a full-time starter in 2024-25 and then averaged 14.4 points and 10.8 rebounds before suffering a season-ending torn posterior labrum in his left shoulder that required surgery five games into last season.

Now fully recovered from surgery, Kessler looks to be an ideal fit next to Doncic as a rim-running center who’s one of the best defenders in the league. Doncic has always been at his best when he’s had that archetype at center — he led Dallas to the NBA Finals in 2024 when he had Daniel Gafford and Dereck Lively II.

Mamukelashvili agreed to terms on a four-year, $52 million contract. The 6-foot-9, 240-pound Mamukelashvili is coming off a career year with the Raptors, averaging 11.2 points per game.

Grimes agreed to terms on a four-year, $60 million contract. Grimes, a one-time teammate of Doncic, averaged 13.4 points, 3.6 rebounds and 3.3 assists last season with the 76ers.

Sexton, who will sign a two-year, $19 million deal, averaged 15.4 points and 3.3 assists in 68 regular-season games (22 starts) for the Hornets and Bulls in 2025-26.

Wimbledon

At All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club; London; Purse: €30,060,000; Surface: Grass; Wednesday (seedings in parentheses):

Men's Singles - Second Round
Jenson Brooksby, United States, def. Ignacio Buse (31), Peru, 6-2, 6-2, 6-3.
Hubert Hurkacz, Poland, def. Sebastian Ofner, Austria, 7-6 (8), 6-4, 6-4.
Tommy Paul (21), United States, def. Kwon Soon Woo, South Korea, 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-2.
Alejandro Davidovich Fokina (22), Spain, def. Fabian Marozsan, Hungary, 6-3, 6-0, 6-3.
Marton Fucsovics, Hungary, def. **Learner Tien (16), United States,** 6-7 (6), 6-4, 7-6 (4), 6-3.
Jannik Sinner (1), Italy, def. Nuno Borges, Portugal, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (2), 6-4.
Arthur Rinderknech (25), France, def. Martin Damm Jr, United States, 6-4, 7-6 (1), 6-3.
Michael Zheng, United States, def. Nicolas Mejia, Colombia, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (8), 6-1, 6-4.
Daniil Medvedev (8), Russia, def. Daniel Merida, Spain, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-2.
Joao Fonseca (24), Brazil, def. Jesper De Jong, Netherlands, 6-1, 7-5, 6-4.
Roman Safiullin, Russia, def. Botic Van de Zandschulp, Netherlands, 6-0, 4-6, 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (5).
Shintaro Mochizuki, Japan, def. **Ethan Quinn, United States**, 6-2, 7-6 (6), 7-5.
Felix Auger-Aliassime (3), Canada, def. Dino Prizmic, Croatia, 7-6 (2), 6-3, 7-5.
Novak Djokovic (7), Serbia, def. Stefanos Tsitsipas, Greece, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

Women's Singles - Second Round
Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, def. Antonia Ruzic, Croatia, 6-2, 6-0.
Mananchaya Sawangkaew, Thailand, def. **Alycia Parks, United States**, 7-5, 6-0.
Naomi Osaka (14), Japan, def. Anastasia Gasanova, Russia, 6-3, 6-2.
Daria Kasatkina, Russia, def. Janice Tjen, Indonesia, 6-7 (5), 6-1, 6-4.
Claire Liu, United States, def. Zeynep Sonmez, Turkiye, 7-5, 6-3.
Karolina Muchova (10), Czechia, def. Zhang Shuai, China, 6-3, 6-2.
Aryna Sabalenka (1), Belarus, def. **McCartney Kessler, United States**, 6-1, 7-6 (9).
Jessica Bouzas Maneiro, Spain, def. Dayana Yastremska, Ukraine, 6-3, 6-7 (1), 6-2.
Nikola Bartunkova, Czechia, def. Katerina Siniakova (32), Czechia, 6-2, 6-4.
Coco Gauff (7), United States, def. Solana Sierra, Argentina, 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (7).
Anna Kalinskaya (19), Russia, def. Diane Parry, France, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (8).
Iva Jovic (16), United States, def. Tatjana Maria, Germany, 6-1, 6-2.
Jessica Pegula (4), United States, def. Sara Sorribes Tormo, Spain, 7-6 (6), 6-1.
Belinda Bencic (11), Switzerland, def. Wang Xinyu, China, 7-5, 6-0.
Barbora Krejcikova, Czechia, def. Mirra Andreeva (5), Russia, 4-6, 7-5, 6-4.
Ekaterina Alexandrova (18), Russia, def. Lanlana Tararudee, Thailand, 7-5, 7-5.

AL Standings

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Tampa Bay	50	33	.602	—	—	8-2	W-7	31-12	19-21
Yankees	48	38	.558	3½	+4½	2-8	L-7	22-18	26-20
Toronto	41	46	.471	11	3	3-7	W-1	24-25	17-21
Baltimore	40	48	.455	12½	4½	4-6	W-1	24-23	16-25
Boston	37	48	.435	14	6	6-4	L-2	17-27	20-21

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Chicago	45	40	.529	—	—	6-4	L-1	28-14	17-26
Cleveland	45	42	.517	1	+1	4-6	W-1	22-20	23-22
Minnesota	42	46	.477	4½	2½	5-5	W-1	22-23	20-23
Detroit	38	49	.437	8	6	5-5	W-3	23-21	15-28
Kansas City	35	52	.402	11	9	3-7	L-2	19-24	16-28

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Seattle	44	43	.506	—	—	5-5	W-2	24-19	20-24
Texas	44	43	.506	—	—	7-3	L-1	19-18	25-25
Houston	43	46	.483	2	2	6-4	L-1	21-23	22-23
Athletics	41	46	.471	3	3	3-7	W-1	19-25	22-21
Los Angeles	36	51	.414	8	8	6-4	L-2	21-22	15-29

***WGB:** Games behind third-place team in wild-card race

Wednesday

Detroit 6, **Yankees** 2, 11 inn.
Toronto 9, **Mets** 3
Baltimore 6, White Sox 1
Cleveland 9, Texas 4
Washington 10, Boston 2
Tampa Bay 4, Kansas City 0
Minnesota 8, Houston 3
Athletics 7, L.A. Dodgers 1

Thursday

White Sox at Cleveland, 6:40
Tampa Bay at Kansas City, 7:40
Detroit at Texas, 8:05
L.A. Angels at Seattle, 9:40

Friday

Minnesota at **Yankees**, 7:05
L.A. Angels at Seattle, 9:40
Baltimore at Cincinnati, 7:10
White Sox at Cleveland, 7:10
Tampa Bay at Houston, 8:15
Boston at L.A. Angels, 9:38
Miami at Athletics, 9:40
Toronto at Seattle, 10:10

NL Standings

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Atlanta	50	34	.595	—	—	3-7	W-1	25-15	25-19
Philadelphia	49	38	.563	2½	+3	7-3	W-2	25-20	24-18
Miami	46	41	.529	5½	—	7-3	L-1	28-17	18-24
Washington	45	43	.511	7	1½	5-5	W-2	17-25	28-18
Mets	36	51	.414	15½	10	2-8	L-1	19-24	17-27

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Milwaukee	53	31	.631	—	—	8-2	W-3	29-17	24-14
Chicago	49	38	.563	5½	+3	9-1	W-5	26-17	23-21
St. Louis	44	39	.530	8½	—	4-6	L-1	23-21	21-18
Pittsburgh	43	44	.494	11½	3	5-5	L-2	23-22	20-22
Cincinnati	39	46	.459	14½	6	3-7	L-4	19-22	20-24

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Los Angeles	56	31	.644	—	—	7-3	L-1	26-14	30-17
San Diego	43	42	.506	12	2	4-6	L-5	23-21	20-21
Arizona	43	43	.500	12	2½	4-6	L-1	26-18	17-25
San Francisco	36	50	.419	19½	9½	5-5	W-1	18-22	18-28
Colorado	34	53	.391	22	12	4-6	W-1	19-24	15-29

***WGB:** Games behind third-place team in wild-card race

Wednesday

Toronto 9, **Mets** 3
Washington 10, Boston 2
Cubs 23, San Diego 3
Atlanta 5, St. Louis 1
San Francisco 6, Arizona 4
Philadelphia 10, Pittsburgh 6
Colorado 6, Miami 3
Milwaukee 4, Cincinnati 2
Athletics 7, L.A. Dodgers 1

Thursday

Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 12:35
Cincinnati at Milwaukee, 2:10
Miami at Colorado, 3:10
St. Louis at Atlanta, 7:15
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10

Friday

Mets at Atlanta, 7:15
St. Louis at Cubs, 4:05
Pittsburgh at Washington, 6:45
Baltimore at Cincinnati, 7:10
San Francisco at Colorado, 8:10
Miami at Athletics, 9:40
Milwaukee at Arizona, 9:45
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10

POST SU DOKU **Puzzles on Page 34**

1	9	3	2	5	4	7	6	8
7	2	6	9	8	1	3	5	4
4	8	5	6	7	3	1	9	2
6	3	8	5	2	7	9	4	1
5	4	2	1	9	8	6	3	7
9	1	7	3	4	6	8	2	5
8	7	9	4	3	5	2	1	6
3	5	1	8	6	2	4	7	9
2	6	4	7	1	9	5	8	3

Solution to Very Easy #7,327

3	1	4	8	6	7	9	5	2
8	7	2	5	9	4	1	3	6
9	5	6	2	1	3	7	8	4
6	9	1	7	4	8	3	2	5
2	8	3	9	5	1	6	4	7
5	4	7	6	3	2	8	9	1
4	3	5	1	8	6	2	7	9
1	2	8	4	7	9	5	6	3
7	6	9	3	2	5	4	1	8

Solution to Difficult #7,117

Tigers 6, Yankees 2, 11 inn.

Detroit	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
McGonigle ss-3b	5	2	1	1	0	1	.282
Dingler dh	5	1	2	0	0	0	.267
Carpenter rf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.238
Vierling ph-rf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.201
Greene lf	3	1	0	1	1	1	.285
Keith 3b	3	0	1	0	0	1	.249
Lee ph-2b	1	1	0	0	1	1	.256
Torkelson 1b	3	1	0	1	2	1	.215
McKinstry 2b-ss	5	0	1	2	0	1	.193
Outman cf	5	0	0	0	0	2	.165
Rogers c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.147
Totals	**38**	**6**	**6**	**5**	**4**	**10**	

Yankees	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Rice 1b	3	0	1	0	2	1	.269
Domínguez rf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.213
Sánchez c	1	0	0	0	0	1	.240
Bellinger lf	5	0	0	0	0	2	.254
Rosario dh	5	1	1	1	0	1	.250
Chisholm 2b	5	1	2	0	0	2	.225
Volpe ss	4	0	1	0	0	1	.246
Wells c	2	0	0	0	0	2	.153
S.Jones ph-cf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.233
Caballero cf-rf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.246
Cabrera 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.000
Totals	**37**	**2**	**7**	**1**	**2**	**12**	

Detroit	**001 001 000 04 —**	**6**	**6**	**0**
Yankees	**000 000 002 00 —**	**2**	**7**	**2**

E: Wells (4), Sánchez (2). **LOB:** Detroit 7, New York 8. **2B:** Dingler (18), Chisholm (11). **HR:** McGonigle (7), off Warren; Rosario (9), off Anderson. **RBIs:** McGonigle (31), Greene (38), Torkelson (38), McKinstry 2 (16), Rosario (27). **SB:** Chisholm 2 (26), Greene (2). **CS:** Volpe (4). **SF:** Greene. **S:** Cabrera, Caballero. **Runners left in scoring position:** Detroit 4 (Outman, McGonigle, McKinstry, Greene); New York 6 (Volpe, Chisholm, Sánchez 2, Domínguez 2). **RISP:** Detroit 1 for 11; New York 0 for 8.

Detroit	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Melton	6.1	2	0	0	1	7	84	2.05
Sommers, H, 4	0.2	0	0	0	0	1	9	3.12
Anderson, BS, 2-6	2.0	5	2	2	0	1	32	4.27
Montero, W, 5-5	2.0	0	0	0	1	3	23	3.31

Yankees	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Warren	5.1	5	2	2	0	7	79	3.73
Blackburn	1.2	0	0	0	1	1	19	2.40
Headrick	1.1	0	0	0	0	1	12	1.52
F.Cruz	1.2	0	0	0	0	1	17	2.45
Doval, L, 3-1	1.0	1	4	2	3	0	21	4.96

T: 2:59. **A:** 37,117 (47,309).

Nationals 10, Red Sox 2

Washington	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Wood lf	4	2	2	3	2	1	.265
Mead 3b	5	2	2	0	1	0	.227
Chaparro 1b	2	1	1	2	0	1	.170
García ph-1b	4	1	1	2	0	0	.280
Crews rf	3	0	2	0	2	1	.234
Lile dh	5	0	1	0	0	1	.250
Young cf	3	1	2	1	2	1	.225
Vivas 2b	5	0	0	0	0	1	.250
Nuñez ss	4	1	1	1	1	3	.233
Millas c	3	2	1	0	2	1	.190
Totals	**38**	**10**	**13**	**9**	**10**	**10**	

Boston	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Seigler 2b	4	0	0	0	1	1	.318
Rafaela cf	4	1	2	0	1	1	.282
Abreu rf	5	0	1	0	0	3	.266
Contreras 1b	4	1	2	0	1	0	.283
Gonzalez dh	4	0	1	0	0	2	.182
Durbin 3b	3	0	0	1	1	0	.229
Eaton lf	3	0	0	1	0	1	.174
Monasterio ss	4	0	1	0	0	1	.218
Wong c	4	0	2	0	0	1	.289
Totals	**35**	**2**	**9**	**2**	**4**	**10**	

Washington	**200 500 300 —**	**10**	**13**	**0**
Boston	**000 000 020 —**	**2**	**9**	**0**

LOB: Washington 11, Boston 11. **2B:** Young 2 (11), Lile (19), Monasterio (11), Rafaela (19). **3B:** Mead (1). **HR:** Chaparro (1), off Tolle; Nuñez (1), off Tolle; Wood (22), off Gamboa. **RBIs:** Chaparro 2 (7), Nuñez (28), García 2 (59), Young (31), Wood 3 (55), Durbin (36), Eaton (5). **SB:** Crews (5). **RISP:** Washington 6 for 14; Boston 1 for 11. **DP:** Washington 1 (Chaparro, Nuñez, Chaparro); Boston 2 (Seigler, Monasterio, Contreras; Seigler, Monasterio, Contreras).

Washington	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Lord	2.1	2	0	0	2	1	53	3.18
Alvarez, W, 2-1	4.2	2	0	0	1	6	74	3.05
Cornelio	1.0	3	2	2	1	2	35	7.71
Palmquist	1.0	2	0	0	0	1	16	2.08

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Tolle, L, 4-6	3.0	7	6	6	3	5	76	3.39
Watson	2.0	3	1	1	1	1	32	4.72
Morán	1.2	0	1	1	2	3	26	3.12
Gamboa	2.1	3	2	2	4	1	44	4.50

T: 3:05. **A:** 32,574 (37,755).

Blue Jays 9, Mets 3

Mets	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Benge rf	4	1	2	2	0	0	.259
Soto dh	4	0	0	0	0	1	.293
Bichette 3b	2	0	0	0	1	1	.250
Mauricio 3b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.178
Lindor ss	3	1	1	1	1	1	.216
Ewing cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.268
Alvarez c	4	0	0	0	0	3	.245
Young 1b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.228
Baty 2b	3	1	1	0	0	1	.211
Taylor lf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.206
Totals	**31**	**3**	**5**	**3**	**2**	**11**	

Toronto	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Lukes rf	5	1	2	0	0	1	.299
Guerrero 1b	4	1	1	0	1	2	.267
Okamoto 3b	3	1	2	1	1	0	.240
Varsho cf	4	1	1	1	0	0	.258
Kirk c	2	2	2	0	2	0	.212
Piñango lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.268
Straw ph-lf	1	1	1	3	0	0	.239
Clement 2b	4	1	2	1	0	1	.299
Urías 2b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.400
Keys dh	4	1	1	3	0	2	.167
Giménez ss	3	0	0	0	1	1	.237
Totals	**33**	**9**	**12**	**9**	**5**	**7**	

Mets	**000 000 021 —**	**3**	**5**	**0**
Toronto	**104 000 40x —**	**9**	**12**	**0**

LOB: New York 3, Toronto 5. **2B:** Benge (11), Guerrero (13), Clement (22). **HR:** Benge (10), off Corbin; Lindor (4), off Corbin; Keys (1), off Peralta; Straw (3), off Pérez. **RBIs:** Benge 2 (34), Lindor (9), Okamoto (54), Clement (29), Keys 3 (3), Varsho (23), Straw 3 (16). **Runners left in scoring position:** New York 1 (Soto); Toronto 2 (Clement 2). **RISP:** New York 0 for 1; Toronto 5 for 9. **DP:** New York 1 (Lindor, Baty, Young).

Mets	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Peralta, L, 5-7	4.0	7	5	5	3	4	91	4.81
Gerber	1.1	0	0	0	1	0	16	1.23
Pérez	1.1	5	4	4	1	2	30	5.73
Minter	1.1	0	0	0	0	1	14	0.00

Toronto	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Fisher	1.0	0	0	0	1	1	14	3.40
Miles, W, 4-1	3.0	1	0	0	1	5	46	2.83
Corbin, S, 1-1	5.0	4	3	3	0	5	73	5.11

T: 2:39. **A:** 41,842 (39,150).

Cubs 23, Padres 3

San Diego	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Tatis rf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.280
Bowen rf-cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.118
Sheets lf	3	0	1	0	1	0	.234
Machado dh	4	1	1	0	0	2	.190
Fermin c	1	0	0	0	0	0	.147
France 1b	4	0	2	1	0	2	.273
Merrill cf	2	0	0	0	1	1	.211
Taylor rf	2	1	1	0	0	0	.333
Bogaerts ss	2	0	0	0	1	1	.232
Andujar 3b	1	0	1	1	0	0	.262
Cronenworth 2b	4	0	3	0	0	1	.162
Durán c-p	4	0	0	0	0	0	.132
Song 3b-ss	4	1	2	1	0	0	.233
Totals	**36**	**3**	**11**	**3**	**3**	**7**	

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Crow-Armstrong cf	4	2	2	3	0	1	.287
Ramirez ph-2b	2	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Bregman 3b	5	1	0	0	1	0	.240
Busch 1b	6	2	2	1	0	2	.235
Suzuki rf	5	3	3	3	1	1	.274
Wicks p-p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
Happ lf	3	2	1	0	1	2	.223
Alcantara lf	1	1	1	1	0	0	.250
Hoerner 2b	3	0	0	0	1	2	.240
Dean cf	0	1	0	0	1	0	.500
Conforto dh-rf	4	4	3	4	1	0	.248
Amaya c	4	3	2	3	1	2	.229
Swanson ss	5	4	3	8	0	0	.210
Totals	**42**	**23**	**17**	**23**	**7**	**10**	

San Diego	**000 020 010 —**	**3**	**11**	**1**
Chicago	**315 042 08x —**	**23**	**17**	**0**

E: Cronenworth (1). **LOB:** San Diego 11, Chicago 2. **2B:** Song (3), Machado (16), France (8), Sheets (14), Happ (16), Suzuki (12). **3B:** Taylor (1). **HR:** Song (1), off Rea; Suzuki (13), off Buehler; Swanson 2 (15), off Buehler; Conforto 2 (7), off Hart; Crow-Armstrong (19), off Hart; Swanson (16), off Durán; Busch (11), off Durán. **RBIs:** Song (9), France (30), Andujar (18), Suzuki 3 (42), Swanson 8 (57), Amaya 3 (13), Conforto 4 (21), Crow-Armstrong 3 (49), Alcantara (1), Busch (47). **RISP:** San Diego 3 for 11; Chicago 8 for 12. **DP:** Chicago 2 (Bregman, Hoerner, Busch; Ramirez, Swanson, Busch).

San Diego	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Buehler, L, 5-4	4.0	7	9	9	4	6	85	4.61
Hart	2.0	3	6	5	2	4	52	5.34
Durán	2.0	7	8	8	1	0	31	36.00

Chicago	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Rea, W, 6-5	5.0	6	2	2	3	5	81	4.74
Thornton	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2.52
Wicks, S, 2-2	3.0	5	1	1	0	2	40	10.45

T: 2:37. **A:** 37,311 (41,363).

Orioles 6, White Sox 1

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Antonacci lf	4	1	2	1	0	0	.295
Vargas 3b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.244
Benintendi dh	4	0	0	0	0	2	.243
B.Montgomery rf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.239
Gonzalez 1b	2	0	0	0	1	1	.253
Meidroth 2b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.272
Peters cf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.286
Acuña ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	.217
Romo c	3	0	0	0	0	0	.133
Totals	**30**	**1**	**4**	**1**	**1**	**6**	

Baltimore	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Henderson ss	4	1	1	0	1	0	.227
Rutschman c	4	0	1	1	0	2	.252
Ward lf	3	0	1	1	0	1	.250
Alonso dh	3	0	0	0	1	2	.247
Mayo 1b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.188
Basallo ph-1b	0	0	0	0	1	0	.256
O'Neill rf	2	1	1	1	1	1	.187
Cowser ph-cf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.227
Taveras cf-rf	3	2	1	1	1	1	.248
Holliday 2b	2	1	0	0	2	1	.196
Alexander 3b	4	1	2	1	0	2	.306
Totals	**29**	**6**	**7**	**5**	**7**	**12**	

Chicago	**100 000 000 —**	**1**	**4**	**0**
Baltimore	**000 041 01x —**	**6**	**7**	**0**

LOB: Chicago 3, Baltimore 7. **2B:** B.Montgomery (7). **3B:** Alexander (2). **HR:** Antonacci (5), off Kremer; O'Neill (3), off Schultz; Taveras (3), off Eisert. **RBIs:** Antonacci (23), O'Neill (9), Rutschman (43), Ward (23), Alexander (26), Taveras (31). **SB:** Taveras (10). **CS:** Acuña (3). **SF:** Ward. **Runners left in scoring position:** Chicago 1 (Meidroth); Baltimore 4 (Mayo, Henderson, Cowser, Alonso). **RISP:** Chicago 0 for 1; Baltimore 3 for 7. **Runners moved up:** Ward, Alonso. **GIDP:** Taveras. **DP:** Chicago 1 (Vargas, Meidroth, Gonzalez).

Chicago	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Schultz, L, 2-5	4.1	2	3	3	4	7	87	5.86
Hudson	0.1	2	1	1	0	0	10	2.35
Richards	1.1	1	1	1	2	2	31	3.94
Hicks	1.0	1	0	0	1	2	22	4.71
Eisert	1.0	1	1	1	0	1	16	5.16

Baltimore	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Kremer, W, 1-1	6.0	4	1	1	1	4	79	3.18
Wells	2.0	0	0	0	0	2	20	3.18
Kittredge	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	11	5.14

T: 2:39. **A:** 19,045 (45,971).

Braves 5, Cardinals 1

St. Louis	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Wetherholt 2b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.259
Herrera dh	4	1	1	0	0	1	.252
Burleson 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.275
Walker rf	3	0	1	1	0	2	.288
Nootbaar lf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.293
Winn ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	.242
Church cf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.255
Fermín ph-cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.262
Jordan 3b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.222
Crooks c	2	0	0	0	0	1	.151
Velázquez ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.308
Pagés c	0	0	0	0	0	0	.220
Totals	**29**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**11**	

Atlanta	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Baldwin c	3	2	1	0	1	0	.255
Albies 2b	4	2	2	2	0	1	.276
Olson 1b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.272
Harris cf	4	0	1	1	0	0	.293
Dubón lf	2	1	0	1	1	0	.265
Smith dh	4	0	1	0	0	1	.279
Riley 3b	4	0	1	1	0	2	.207
Yastrzemski rf	2	0	0	0	2	1	.221
Mateo ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	.259
Totals	**30**	**5**	**6**	**5**	**4**	**5**	

St. Louis	**100 000 000 —**	**1**	**2**	**2**
Atlanta	**101 000 03x —**	**5**	**6**	**0**

E: Jordan 2 (3). **LOB:** St. Louis 2, Atlanta 6. **2B:** Herrera (14), Albies (15). **HR:** Albies (13), off McGreevy. **RBIs:** Walker (59), Albies 2 (48), Harris (44), Dubón (44), Riley (38). **SB:** Walker (11). **S:** Dubón. **Runners left in scoring position:** St. Louis 1 (Nootbaar); Atlanta 2 (Yastrzemski, Mateo). **RISP:** St. Louis 1 for 3; Atlanta 3 for 7.

St. Louis	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
McGrevy, L, 3-7	6.0	3	2	2	1	3	87	3.12
Rajcic	1.0	0	0	0	2	1	24	5.40
Bruihl	0.1	1	2	1	1	0	14	4.10
Graceffo	0.2	2	1	0	0	1	10	3.20

Atlanta	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
López, W, 4-1	5.0	2	1	1	1	6	69	3.31
Dodd, H, 2	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	14	2.45
Fuentes, H, 7	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	10	2.51
Lee, H, 16	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	15	0.95
Iglesias	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	13	1.27

T: 2:16. **A:** 27,361 (41,149).

Guardians 9, Rangers 4

Texas	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Foscue 2b	4	1	1	0	1	1	.275
Jung 3b	3	0	0	0	2	2	.294
Duran rf	5	0	3	0	0	0	.273
Burger 1b	4	0	0	0	1	2	.250
Higashioka dh	1	1	0	1	2	0	.220
Pederson ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	1	.240
Cauley cf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.111
J.Smith ph-lf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.223
Osuna lf-cf	4	1	0	0	0	0	.247
Díaz c	4	1	2	2	0	0	.288
Lopez ss	3	0	1	1	0	1	.323
Totals	**33**	**4**	**8**	**4**	**6**	**8**	

Cleveland	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Fry lf	3	1	1	3	0	1	.214
Kwan ph-lf	2	1	1	0	0	0	.214
DeLauter rf	5	1	3	1	0	0	.275
Hoskins 1b	3	0	0	0	1	2	.182
Manzardo dh	4	0	1	0	0	1	.231
Rocchio ss	4	1	1	0	0	1	.270
Arias 3b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.209
Watson cf	4	1	2	0	0	1	.286
Hedges c	3	2	1	3	0	0	.270
Schneemann 2b	3	1	0	0	1	1	.216
Totals	**35**	**9**	**11**	**7**	**2**	**8**	

Texas	**001 002 010 —**	**4**	**8**	**0**
Cleveland	**050 000 22x —**	**9**	**11**	**0**

LOB: Texas 9, Cleveland 5. **2B:** Lopez (2), DeLauter (15), Watson (3). **3B:** Kwan (1). **HR:** Díaz (3), off Sabrowski; Fry (5), off Gore; Hedges (2), off Santos. **RBIs:** Higashioka (15), Díaz 2 (15), Lopez (8), Hedges 3 (12), Fry 3 (12), DeLauter (38). **SB:** DeLauter (3). **S:** Hedges. **Runners left in scoring position:** Texas 2 (Higashioka, Jung); Cleveland 3 (Manzardo, Hedges 2). **RISP:** Texas 3 for 12; Cleveland 2 for 6. **Runners moved up:** Díaz. **GIDP:** Cauley, J.Smith. **DP:** Cleveland 2 (Schneemann, Hoskins; Schneemann, Rocchio, Hoskins).

Texas	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Gore, L, 5-7	5.0	7	5	5	1	7	92	4.31
Winn	1.0	2	2	2	0	0	12	7.00
Santos	2.0	2	2	2	1	1	33	9.00

Cleveland	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Cantillo, W, 7-3	5.0	3	2	2	5	4	93	3.86
Holderman	1.0	3	1	1	0	1	18	1.72
Gaddis, H, 15	0.1	1	0	0	1	1	15	3.38
Herrin, H, 14	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	2	3.07
Sabrowski	1.0	1	1	1	0	2	16	3.38
Festa	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	10	3.79

T: 2:50. **A:** 20,141 (34,788).

Rays 4, Royals 0

Tampa Bay	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Díaz dh	5	0	0	0	0	1	.329
Aranda 1b	3	1	2	0	0	0	.294
Caminero 3b	4	1	1	2	0	3	.293
Mesa rf	4	1	1	0	0	1	.200
Simpson lf	4	0	2	0	0	0	.271
Mullins cf	4	1	2	2	0	2	.212
Walls ss	4	0	3	0	0	1	.231
Palacios 2b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.225
Feduccia c	2	0	0	0	0	1	.218
Fortes ph-c	2	0	0	0	0	0	.254
Totals	**36**	**4**	**11**	**4**	**0**	**10**	

Kansas City	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Thomas cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.212
Witt ss	4	0	1	0	0	0	.293
Caglianone rf	4	0	2	0	0	0	.264
Marte dh	3	0	1	0	0	0	.268
Misner ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.273
Perez 1b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.201
Jensen c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.247
Loftin 3b	2	0	0	0	1	0	.229
Tolbert lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.200
Massey 2b	3	0	1	0	0	2	.261
Totals	**32**	**0**	**6**	**0**	**1**	**7**	

Tampa Bay	**200 001 010 —**	**4**	**11**	**2**
Kansas City	**000 000 000 —**	**0**	**6**	**0**

E: McClanahan (4), Palacios (5). **LOB:** Tampa Bay 6, Kansas City 6. **2B:** Simpson (8), Walls (10). **HR:** Caminero (24), off Lugo; Mullins (9), off Lugo. **RBIs:** Caminero 2 (54), Mullins 2 (27). **CS:** Walls (3), Simpson (11). **Runners left in scoring position:** Tampa Bay 3 (Palacios, Walls, Mullins); Kansas City 2 (Witt, Jensen). **RISP:** Tampa Bay 1 for 4; Kansas City 0 for 4. **DP:** Tampa Bay 3 (Caminero, Palacios, Aranda; Caminero, Palacios, Aranda; Palacios, Aranda).

Tampa Bay	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
McClanahan, W, 7-5	6.0	3	0	0	0	4	69	3.05
Sulser, H, 6	1.0	1	0	0	0	2	17	5.30
Cleavinger	0.2	1	0	0	1	1	18	4.30
Kelly, S, 4-6	1.1	1	0	0	0	0	7	2.52

Kansas City	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Lugo, L, 3-6	6.0	9	3	3	0	7	85	4.20
Strahm	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	9	5.53
Cuas	2.0	2	1	1	0	3	42	4.50

T: 2:11. **A:** 13,798 (38,427).

Phillies 10, Pirates 6

Pittsburgh	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Griffin ss	5	1	1	0	0	1	.269
Lowe 2b	4	0	1	0	1	1	.240
Reynolds dh	5	0	1	1	0	3	.280
Valdez rf-lf	5	1	1	0	0	1	.302
O'Hearn 1b	5	1	1	0	0	2	.286
Gonzales 3b	4	1	3	1	1	0	.300
Mangum cf	3	1	2	0	1	0	.302
Callihan lf	2	0	0	0	0	2	.237
Triolo ph-rf	2	0	1	3	0	1	.238
Davis c	4	1	1	1	0	2	.150
Totals	**39**	**6**	**12**	**6**	**3**	**13**	

Philadelphia	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Turner ss	5	2	2	3	0	1	.239
Schwarber dh	4	0	0	0	1	3	.252
Harper 1b	4	0	1	2	1	3	.275
Marsh lf	4	2	2	1	1	1	.319
Bohm 3b	4	2	1	2	0	2	.223
Stott 2b	5	1	2	0	0	0	.244
Realmuto c	3	0	0	0	1	2	.201
Rincones rf	3	2	2	0	1	1	.171
Hill rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.239
Crawford cf	4	1	1	0	0	0	.256
Totals	**36**	**10**	**11**	**8**	**5**	**13**	

Pittsburgh	**002 020 200 —**	**6**	**12**	**1**
Philadelphia	**051 200 02x —**	**10**	**11**	**0**

E: Gonzales (7). **LOB:** Pittsburgh 11, Philadelphia 8. **2B:** Triolo (8), Harper (15). **HR:** Davis (7), off Wheeler; Turner (10), off Skenes; Marsh (15), off Skenes; Bohm (10), off Santana. **RBIs:** Davis (20), Reynolds (53), Gonzales (36), Triolo 3 (14), Turner 3 (31), Marsh (46), Harper 2 (56), Bohm 2 (45). **SB:** Griffin (16). **Runners left in scoring position:** Pittsburgh 5 (Griffin 2, Davis 2, Triolo); Philadelphia 4 (Turner, Bohm, Crawford, Marsh). **RISP:** Pittsburgh 3 for 10; Philadelphia 2 for 9.

Pittsburgh	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Skenes, L, 6-8	4.0	6	8	7	2	5	81	3.62
Sanders	1.2	1	0	0	2	2	44	7.04
Ramírez	1.1	2	0	0	1	4	37	3.59
Santana	1.0	2	2	2	0	2	15	5.09

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Wheeler	4.2	9	4	4	1	10	104	2.36
Backhus	0.2	1	0	0	0	1	18	5.68
Johnson	1.0	1	2	2	2	1	27	6.10
Kerkering, W, 6-0	1.2	0	0	0	0	0	15	2.62
Duran	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	14	1.52

T: 3:18. **A:** 41,766 (42,901).

Twins 8, Astros 3

Minnesota	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Larnach lf	5	1	3	2	0	1	.291
Lee 3b	4	1	1	0	1	1	.251
Clemens 2b	5	1	1	3	0	2	.241
Bell dh	4	1	1	2	1	1	.244
Lewis 1b	4	0	0	0	1	2	.211
Caratini c	3	1	1	0	1	0	.239
Kreidler cf	3	0	0	0	1	2	.279
Gray ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.232
Keaschall rf	2	3	1	1	1	1	.246
Totals	**34**	**8**	**8**	**8**	**6**	**12**	

Houston	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Altuve 2b	4	1	1	0	1	1	.233
Alvarez dh	4	0	3	0	1	0	.319
I.Paredes 3b-1b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.250
Walker 1b	2	0	0	0	0	2	.239
B.Matthews ph-3b	2	1	0	0	1	0	.191
Smith rf	4	1	1	0	0	1	.223
Trammell cf-lf	3	0	0	0	1	1	.265
Diaz c	4	0	0	0	0	3	.239
Loperfido lf	3	0	1	1	0	2	.216
Meyers ph-cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.211
Delgado ss	1	0	0	0	0	1	.276
Allen ss	3	0	1	1	0	1	.247
Totals	**35**	**3**	**8**	**2**	**4**	**13**	

Minnesota	**230 020 010 —**	**8**	**8**	**2**
Houston	**100 002 000 —**	**3**	**8**	**0**

E: Clemens (1), Lewis (7), Delgado (2). **LOB:** Minnesota 6, Houston 10. **2B:** Larnach (16), Smith (13). **HR:** Bell (11), off Imai; Clemens (14), off Imai; Keaschall (3), off Abreu. **RBIs:** Bell 2 (56), Clemens 3 (38), Larnach 2 (29), Keaschall (25), Loperfido (12), Allen (6). **SB:** Lewis (6). **CS:** Larnach (2). **Runners left in scoring position:** Minnesota 3 (Lewis, Gray 2); Houston 5 (B.Matthews, Altuve, Delgado, Smith, I.Paredes). **RISP:** Minnesota 3 for 10; Houston 2 for 15. **DP:** Minnesota 2 (Lee, Clemens, Lewis; Gray, Clemens, Lewis).

Minnesota	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Bradley, W, 7-3	5.0	4	1	1	3	11	97	3.86
Laweryson	0.2	2	2	0	1	0	23	4.86
Morris, H, 11	1.1	1	0	0	0	0	17	3.89
Rogers	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	15	5.97
Gómez	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	18	3.57

Houston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Imai, L, 5-4	1.1	4	5	5	5	2	57	6.14
Blubaugh	2.2	2	0	0	0	3	47	3.36
Pearson	1.0	1	2	2	1	1	28	4.24
Ullola	2.0	0	0	0	0	3	23	0.00
Abreu	2.0	1	1	1	0	3	34	5.90

T: 3:16. **A:** 29,179 (41,000).

Rockies 6, Marlins 3

Miami	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Lopez ss	4	0	1	0	0	0	.332
Ruiz cf	4	0	0	0	0	4	.244
Hicks 1b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.283
Hernández lf	3	1	1	0	0	0	.221
Conine ph-lf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.280
Sanoja 2b	2	0	1	2	2	0	.277
Stowers rf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.231
Jiménez 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.211
Navarreto c	2	0	0	0	0	1	.000
Mack ph-c	1	1	1	1	0	0	.256
Edwards ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.303
Caissie dh	3	0	1	0	0	2	.240
Totals	**33**	**3**	**7**	**3**	**2**	**11**	

Colorado	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
McCarthy cf-lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.294
Moniak dh	4	2	3	3	0	0	.271
Goodman c	4	1	1	2	0	1	.243
Rumfield 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.290
Castro 2b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.269
Freeman rf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.274
Johnston lf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.313
Carrigg cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.266
Karros 3b	3	2	1	1	0	1	.258
Tovar ss	3	1	0	0	0	0	.205
Totals	**32**	**6**	**7**	**6**	**0**	**6**	

Miami	**000 200 100 —**	**3**	**7**	**1**
Colorado	**100 040 10x —**	**6**	**7**	**0**

E: Sanoja (8). **LOB:** Miami 5, Colorado 2. **2B:** Hernández (5), Moniak (10). **3B:** Sanoja (2), Moniak (3). **HR:** Mack (6), off Mejia; Moniak (14), off Meyer; Goodman (27), off Meyer; Karros (6), off Zuber. **RBIs:** Sanoja 2 (34), Mack (22), Moniak 3 (35), Goodman 2 (50), Karros (26). **CS:** Sanoja (2). **Runners left in scoring position:** Miami 2 (Hicks, Jiménez); Colorado 2 (Karros, Goodman). **RISP:** Miami 1 for 5; Colorado 2 for 6.

Miami	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Meyer, L, 9-1	6.0	6	5	1	0	5	78	2.53
Zuber	1.0	1	1	1	0	0	14	5.40
King	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	5	1.95

Colorado	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Freeland, W, 2-7	5.0	6	2	2	1	7	85	7.25
Mejia, H, 6	2.0	1	1	1	1	3	25	6.28
Herget, H, 5	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	10	3.86
Bernardino, S, 1-3	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	12	3.48

T: 2:09. **A:** 18,798 (50,144).

Athletics 7, Dodgers 1

Los Angeles	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Ohtani dh	5	0	0	0	0	2	.291
Pages cf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.271
Freeman 1b	2	1	1	1	1	0	.294
Rushing 1b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.244
Muncy 3b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.265
Tucker rf	0	0	0	0	4	0	.239
Edman lf	3	0	0	0	1	2	.366
Freeland 2b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.226
Rojas ss	4	0	2	0	0	0	.286
Robinson c	4	0	0	0	0	1	.087
Totals	**31**	**1**	**5**	**1**	**6**	**11**	

Athletics	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Langeliers dh	5	1	2	1	0	1	.265
Kurtz 1b	4	1	2	0	0	1	.279
Thomas lf	4	1	1	1	0	1	.238
Heim c	3	2	2	2	1	0	.246
Kuroda-Grauer 3b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.455
Butler rf	4	0	0	1	0	1	.196
Bolte cf	4	0	2	1	0	0	.293
McNeil 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.229
Williams ss	3	1	1	1	1	1	.304
Totals	**35**	**7**	**12**	**7**	**2**	**5**	

Los Angeles	**001 000 000 —**	**1**	**5**	**0**
Athletics	**010 230 01x —**	**7**	**12**	**0**

LOB: Los Angeles 9, Athletics 6. **2B:** Pages (20), Muncy (12), Kuroda-Grauer (2), Thomas (3). **HR:** Freeman (14), off Ginn; Heim (8), off Barnes; Langeliers (20), off Barnes; Williams (2), off Barnes. **RBIs:** Freeman (47), Heim 2 (23), Butler (22), Bolte (14), Langeliers (44), Thomas (11), Williams (8). **SB:** Freeman (3). **Runners left in scoring position:** Los Angeles 5 (Freeland, Edman 3, Ohtani); Athletics 3 (Thomas 2, McNeil). **RISP:** Los Angeles 0 for 5; Athletics 3 for 8. **DP:** Los Angeles 1 (Freeland, Freeman); 1 (Williams, Kurtz).

Los Angeles	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Dreyer	1.0	0	0	0	0	3	14	3.41
Barnes, L, 0-1	7.0	12	7	7	2	2	94	7.50

Athletics	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Ginn, W, 7-4	6.0	3	1	1	5	4	104	3.04
Medina	1.2	1	0	0	1	3	29	3.96
Harris	1.1	1	0	0	0	4	17	3.46

T: 2:21. **A:** 12,592 (14,014).

Brewers 4, Reds 2

Cincinnati	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
De La Cruz ss	4	0	2	0	0	2	.274
Stewart 3b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.257
Steer 1b	3	0	0	0	1	1	.236
Suárez dh	4	0	1	0	0	1	.206
Stephenson c	4	1	2	0	0	1	.230
Marte rf	4	1	1	2	0	0	.200
I.Johnson lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Bleday ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.236
McLain cf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.196
Arroyo 2b	3	0	1	0	0	2	.268
Totals	**33**	**2**	**8**	**2**	**1**	**10**	

Milwaukee	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Chourio lf	3	1	1	0	2	0	.296
Turang 2b	4	1	1	0	1	0	.259
Contreras dh	4	0	1	1	0	0	.296
Bauers rf-1b	4	0	0	1	0	2	.268
Vaughn 1b	3	1	1	0	1	1	.339
Perkins rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.159
Mitchell cf	4	1	4	1	0	0	.264
Sánchez c	2	0	0	0	2	0	.215
Pratt ss	3	0	0	0	1	0	.195
Ortiz 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.203
Totals	**31**	**4**	**8**	**3**	**7**	**4**	

Cincinnati	**020 000 000 —**	**2**	**8**	**2**
Milwaukee	**200 000 20x —**	**4**	**8**	**0**

E: Abbott (1), P.Johnson (1). **LOB:** Cincinnati 5, Milwaukee 12. **2B:** Suárez (10), Stephenson (10), Turang (17), Mitchell 2 (16), Vaughn (14). **3B:** Mitchell (3). **HR:** Marte (5), off Drohan. **RBIs:** Marte 2 (8), Contreras (51), Bauers (51), Mitchell (39). **SF:** Bauers. **Runners left in scoring position:** Cincinnati 3 (Bleday, Marte, Stewart); Milwaukee 6 (Bauers 3, Ortiz, Sánchez 2). **RISP:** Cincinnati 0 for 5; Milwaukee 2 for 10. **DP:** Milwaukee 1 (Turang, Pratt, Bauers).

Cincinnati	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Abbott	5.0	5	2	2	5	3	96	3.88
Antone	1.0	0	0	0	1	0	16	2.59
Burke, L, 3-4	0.2	2	2	2	1	0	26	3.12
P.Johnson	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	15	4.32
Pagán	0.1	0	0	0	0	1	8	6.28

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Drohan	5.2	6	2	2	1	7	78	3.12
Ashby, W, 12-1	1.1	1	0	0	0	2	20	3.16
Uribe, H, 12	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3.00
Megill, S, 12-14	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	11	3.27

T: 2:49. **A:** 30,068 (41,700).

NASCAR

NASCAR Cup Series Schedule-Winners
Feb. 15 — DAYTONA 500 (Tyler Reddick)
Feb. 22 — Autotrader 400 (Tyler Reddick)
March 1 — DuraMAX Texas Grand Prix Powered by RelaDyne (Tyler Reddick)
March 8 — Straight Talk Wireless 500 (Ryan Blaney)
March 15 — Pennzoil 400 presented by Jiffy Lube (Denny Hamlin)
March 22 — Goodyear 400 (Tyler Reddick)
March 29 — Cook Out 400 (Chase Elliott)
April 12 — Food City 500 (Ty Gibbs)
April 19 — AdventHealth 400 (Tyler Reddick)
April 26 — Jack Link's 500 (Carson Hocevar)
May 3 — Würth 400 presented by LIQUI MOLY (Chase Elliott)
May 10 — Go Bowling at The Glen (Shane Van Gisbergen)
May 17 — NASCAR All-Star Race (Denny Hamlin)
May 24 — Coca-Cola 600 (Daniel Suárez)
May 31 — Cracker Barrel 400 (Denny Hamlin)
June 7 — FireKeepers Casino 400 (Denny Hamlin)
June 14 — Great American Getaway 400 presented by VISITPA (Denny Hamlin)
June 21 — Anduril 250 (Corey Heim)
June 28 — Toyota / Save Mart 350 (Shane Van Gisbergen)
July 5 — eero 400, Joliet, Ill.
July 12 — Quaker State 400 Available at Walmart, Hampton, Ga.
July 19 — Window World 450, North Wilkesboro, N.C.
July 26 — Brickyard 400, Speedway, Ind.
Aug. 9 — Iowa Corn 350 Powered by Ethanol, Newton, Iowa
Aug. 15 — Cook Out 400, Richmond, Va.
Aug. 23 — Dollar Tree 301, Loudon, N.H.
Aug. 29 — Coke Zero Sugar 400, Daytona Beach, Fla.
Sept. 6 — Cook Out Southern 500, Darlington, S.C.

Men's World Cup

ROUND OF 32

Sunday, June 28
South Africa 0, Canada 1

Monday, June 29
Brazil 2, Japan 1
Germany 1, Paraguay 1, Paraguay advances 4-3 on penalty kicks
Netherlands 1, Morocco 1, Morocco advances 3-2 on penalty kicks

Tuesday, June 30
Norway 2, Ivory Coast 1
France 3, Sweden 0
Mexico 2, Ecuador 0

Wednesday
England 2, Congo 1
Belgium 3, Senegal 2, AET
United States 2, Bosnia-Herzegovina 0

Thursday
Spain vs. Austria, 3pm
Portugal vs. Croatia, 7pm
Switzerland vs. Algeria, 11pm

Friday
Australia vs. Egypt, 2pm
Argentina vs. Cape Verde, 6pm
Colombia vs. Ghana, 9:30pm

WNBA

East	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	12	7	.632	—
Liberty	12	8	.600	½
Indiana	11	8	.579	1
Washington	9	9	.500	2½
Toronto	9	10	.474	3
Chicago	6	13	.316	6
Connecticut	4	15	.211	8
West	**W**	**L**	**Pct.**	**GB**
Minnesota	15	4	.789	—
Las Vegas	14	5	.737	1
Golden State	13	7	.650	2½
Dallas	11	8	.579	4
Los Angeles	8	10	.444	6½
Portland	8	12	.400	7½
Phoenix	7	13	.350	8½
Seattle	5	15	.250	10½

Wednesday
No games scheduled.

Thursday
Atlanta at Washington, 7:30pm
Dallas at Connecticut, 8pm
Seattle at Phoenix, 10pm

Friday
Minnesota at **Liberty**, 7:30pm
Chicago at Las Vegas, 10pm

Saturday
Golden State at Atlanta, 1pm
Portland at Seattle, 9pm

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
San Diego	8	4	1	25	19	13
Utah Royals FC	7	2	3	24	18	10
Portland	7	3	3	24	20	14
Washington	6	2	3	21	18	9
Gotham FC	**6**	**2**	**3**	**21**	**12**	**5**
Kansas City	7	5	0	21	18	17
N. Carolina	5	3	3	18	17	13
Orlando	5	5	2	17	18	17
Denver Summit FC	4	4	3	15	17	13
Seattle	4	5	2	14	10	13
Houston	4	6	2	14	14	19
Angel City	4	6	1	13	16	14
Bay FC	3	6	2	11	9	17
Boston Legacy FC	2	7	3	9	11	19
Chicago	3	9	0	9	5	24
Louisville	2	8	1	7	15	20

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Friday
Houston at Washington, 8pm
Kansas City at Denver Summit FC, 9:30pm
Orlando at Angel City, 10pm

Saturday
Seattle at North Carolina, 6:30pm
Gotham FC at San Diego, 8:45p

Yonkers entries for Thursday

Post Time: 6:45 p.m.

FIRST: Mile trot; $13,100; Naada

1	Cal Mile N Shell	(JCalabrese)	2-2-2	7-5
2	The Last Chapter	(RFranco)	4-8-7	6-1
3	Bacardi	(NSheridan)	6-1-3	5-1
4	Jesses Doll	(AAdamczyk)	4-4-2	15-1
5	Big Limo	(AVerruso)	5-6-1	7-2
6	Seven Lick Prise	(RHechkoff)	5-6-2	15-1
7	Communion Money	(SBako)	3-2-6	12-1
8	Radio Lab	(JFaraldo)	7-3-5	8-1

SECOND: Mile pace; $15,000; cond

1	Casino Action N	(JStratton)	5-5-4	6-1
2	Heza Risk Taker A	(JBartlett)	5-4-5	6-5
3	Mad River	(YGingras)	8-4-4	6-1
4	MajorcrowdcontrlA	(JMarhn)	4-5-3	8-1
5	Six Degrees	(CKelly)	4-7-7	5-2
6	Orlando Blue A	(ASiegelman)	6-4-7	15-1
7	Texas Holdem	(RSchnittker)	7-7-6	20-1
8	Feelin Western	(GBrennan)	7-8-7	20-1

THIRD: Mile pace; $15,000; claiming

1	BlockbusterTrade	(PLchnce)	3-8-4	8-1
2	Full Support	(YGingras)	1-5-2	7-2
3	Rose Run Astro	(Siegelman)	2-6-1	6-1
4	Last Beach	(JBartlett)	6-5-1	2-1
5	Decision Day	(JStratton)	2-2-6	9-2
6	Mach N Cheese	(JMarohn)	2-5-2	6-1
7	Aladdin	(GBrennan)	1-7-3	12-1
8	South Point	(CKelly)	3-4-8	20-1

FOURTH: Mile pace; $18,000; claiming

1	Badditude	(YGingras)	1-2-1	5-2
2	Maybemabel	(JStratton)	1-2-5	2-1
3	Kissin Joe	(CKelly)	2-5-5	6-1
4	Eveninstrzrpsdy	(ASegelmn)	2-1-6	5-1
5	Fortunada	(PLachance)	7-3-2	20-1
6	SpDancinwithstrz	(GBrennn)	1-5-2	8-1
7	Racin For Royalty	(JBartlett)	7-1-5	6-1
8	Sheikh Yabooty N	(JMarohn)	5-4-X	20-1

FIFTH: Mile trot; $22,000; claiming

1	B Nicking	(JBartlett)	6-2-2	6-5
2	Hat Trick Marleau	(JStratton)	1-2-4	9-2
3	Whiskey Peddler	(CKelly)	5-1-7	6-1
4	Sevenshdesfgrey	(Segelmn)	7-2-2	12-1
5	Songs InTheWind	(Brennan)	7-4-7	20-1
6	Mon Amour	(YGingras)	3-5-1	7-2
7	Bully Boy Hill	(PLachance)	7-3-3	20-1
8	Cactustotheclouds	(JMarhn)	4-4-5	20-1

SIXTH: Mile trot; $22,000; claiming

1	For A Dreamer	(GBrennan)	6-2-4	5-1
2	WarraweeWhisper	(Bartlett)	7-1-7	6-5
3	E-Pass	(PLachance)	6-3-3	20-1
4	Novel	(JStratton)	4-3-8	6-1
5	Hoolie NHector	(Siegelman)	5-8-5	20-1
6	Jas Bluestone	(CKelly)	5-3-4	8-1
7	Willy Walton	(JMarohn)	2-5-6	20-1
8	Kays In Charge	(YGingras)	1-2-2	3-1

SEVENTH: Mile trot; $28,000; cond

1	Mahone Seelster	(CKelly)	3-5-6	9-2
2	Bjm's Lil Man	(YGingras)	2-5-6	2-1
3	The Brodster	(JBartlett)	7-3-1	5-2
4	Ritson	(GBrennan)	3-1-1	8-1
5	P L Oscar	(JMarohn)	6-2-4	15-1
6	Street Gossip	(ASiegelman)	8-2-3	20-1
7	Vandy Lane	(JStratton)	4-2-5	5-1
8	Sunday Shoes	(PLachance)	5-1-3	10-1

EIGHTH: Mile trot; $28,000; cond

1	Full Of Muscles	(JBartlett)	3-2-5	2-1
2	Massive Desire	(YGingras)	2-6-1	5-2
3	My Man Peter	(CKelly)	1-1-7	4-1
4	Torrone	(ASiegelman)	1-6-5	8-1
5	Theobald	(GBrennan)	2-1-1	8-1
6	Wheelzablazin	(JStratton)	1-7-1	10-1
7	Exquisite Taste	(PLachance)	2-1-4	20-1
8	LaferraridmancheS	(JMarhn)	1-1-5	6-1

NINTH: Mile pace; $15,000; claiming

1	Hurrikanekingjames	(JStrttn)	2-3-4	7-5
2	Deedenuto A	(ASiegelman)	7-3-6	20-1
3	Two Faced	(JBartlett)	3-4-4	5-2
4	Social Theories	(PLachance)	1-5-7	20-1
5	Camouflage Money	(CKelly)	5-7-1	7-2
6	I'mSomeGraduate	(GBrennn)	4-2-3	12-1
7	The Will To Play	(JMarohn)	9-5-2	20-1
8	Mr Profeta	(YGingras)	3-7-6	15-1

Yonkers Results

FIRST-1-mile pace; fm20000clm; purse $18,000

TRACK: CONDITION-FT OFF: 6:51 TIME-28.0; 56.3; 1:25.1; 1:54.2

2	FghtNotFlght(JMrhn)	8.64	3.44	2.56
4	Big City Daisy(ASiegelman)		3.54	2.82
1	Barbados Babe (J Stratton)			4.64

• Exacta (2/4) $13.44 • Triple (2/4/1) $65.17 • $.10 Superfecta (2/4/1/5) $53.94

SECOND-1-mile pace; 20000clm; purse $18,000

TRACK: CONDITION-FT OFF: 7:12 TIME-27.2; 56.1; 1:24.4; 1:54.0

1	KrlooBrdlyN(JMrohn)	4.12	3.26	2.46
2	AcpulcoSunburn(JBongorn)		5.32	3.32
8	Movin' On Up (P Lachance)			3.64

• Exacta (1/2) $7.02 • Triple (1/2/8) $106.77 • $.10 Superfecta (1/2/8/5) $34.51 • Daily double (2/1) $11.82

Scr: Lou's Beach.

THIRD-1-mile trot; w2bnmt4; purse $21,000

TRACK: CONDITION-FT OFF: 7:30 TIME-29.3; 58.4; 1:27.3; 1:56.2

2	Hghlndstrbrst(JBngrn)	2.96	2.10	2.10
3	Matthews (S Zeron)		3.32	2.26
1	Goya (C Kelly)			2.30

• Exacta (2/3) $3.65 • Triple (2/3/1) $10.08 • $.10 Superfecta (2/3/1/5) $4.13

FOURTH-1-mile pace; fmnw3pm; purse $19,000

TRACK: CONDITION-FT OFF: 7:48 TIME-28.2; 58.0; 1:26.4; 1:55.2

1	Hertofthesunrs(CKlly)	3.40	2.46	2.10
2	Silence Is Golden (S Zeron)		4.66	3.00
3	Pa Perfect (S Smith)			3.04

• Exacta (1/2) $6.04 • Triple (1/2/3) $18.01 • $.10 Superfecta (1/2/3/4) $5.82 • $1 Pick 3 (1,7/2/1) $6.91 • $1 Pick 4 (2/1,7/2/1) $32.91

FIFTH-1-mile pace; fm20000clm; purse $18,000

TRACK: CONDITION-FT OFF: 8:08 TIME-28.1; 56.4; 1:25.0; 1:54.4

2	MsFrncsAsss(JBngrn)	7.12	3.26	3.22
3	Two Bean Dream (C Kelly)		5.26	3.62
7	Th Sandra Dee (J Marohn)			3.60

• Exacta (2/3) $14.49 • Triple (2/3/7) $61.79 • $.10 Superfecta (2/3/7/4) $33.56 • $1 Pick 3 (2/1/2) $8.59

SIXTH-1-mile trot; nw2pm; purse $19,000

TRACK: CONDITION-FT OFF: 8:27 TIME-29.2; 58.4; 1:27.3; 1:56.2

5	ChpterGeoJ(JStrtton)	5.26	2.38	2.38
2	Peteza (J Bongiorno)		2.24	2.14
8	Serenity As (S Smith)			7.46

• Exacta (5/2) $5.67 • Triple (5/2/8) $81.95 • $.10 Superfecta (5/2/8/1) $22.38 • $1 Pick 3 (1/2/5) $20.80

SEVENTH-1-mile pace; 3-6yo30clm; purse $20,000

TRACK: CONDITION-FT OFF: 8:47 TIME-28.2; 58.0; 1:26.1; 1:55.0

1	ThongContrl(PLchnc)	9.16	3.20	2.70
6	Overthinking (J Bongiorno)		2.98	2.40
4	Jk Steves Spirit (S Zeron)			2.92

• Exacta (1/6) $16.68 • Triple (1/6/4) $67.55 • $.10 Superfecta (1/6/4/5) $36.04

Scr: Flying Major Art N.

EIGHTH-1-mile trot; w5bnmt8; purse $24,000

TRACK: CONDITION-FT OFF: 9:05 TIME-29.3; 58.3; 1:27.2; 1:56.4

6	SevenLyer(VGnsburg)	4.24	2.90	2.40
3	Bruha (S Zeron)		2.88	3.56
2	Wish List (J Marohn)			6.16

• Exacta (6/3) $9.75 • Triple (6/3/2) $43.41 • $.10 Superfecta (6/3/2/5) $14.42 • $1 Pick 3 (5/1/6) $67.53

NINTH-1-mile pace; 25000clm; purse $19,000

TRACK: CONDITION-FT OFF: 9:23 TIME-28.1; 57.4; 1:26.0; 1:54.0

1	Ever M (C Kelly)	3.10	2.14	2.10
7	KomodoBeach(JBongiorno)		2.50	2.66
6	Simply Fast (S Zeron)			3.80

• Exacta (1/7) $4.47 • Triple (1/7/6) $22.37 • $.10 Superfecta (1/7/6/2) $8.19 • $1 Pick 5 (2/5/1/6/1,8) $216.87

Scr: Boiling Oar.

TENTH-1-mile pace; 15000clm; purse $15,000

TRACK: CONDITION-FT OFF: 9:41 TIME-28.2; 57.0; 1:25.1; 1:53.4

6	Curly JamesA(CKelly)	5.82	3.06	2.90
1	Shine A Light (V Ginsburg)		3.24	2.42
7	Captain Batboy (J Bongiorno)			3.58

• Exacta (6/1) $6.77 • Triple (6/1/7) $93.67 • $.10 Superfecta (6/1/7/5) $34.81 • Late double (1/6) $7.30 • $1 Pick 3 (6/1/6) $13.57 • $1 Pick 4 (1/6/1,8/6) $78.09

Total Handle-$426,546.

WTA Tour

H-hard, C-clay, G-grass
May 17-June 5 — French Open, CO (Mirra Andreeva)
June 5-14 2026 — Queen*s Club Championships, GO (Donna Vekic)
June 5-14 2026 — Libema Open, GO (Robin Montgomery)
June 12-21 2026 — Bett1Open, GO (Linda Noskova)
June 12-21 2026 — Rothesay Open Nottingham, GO (Marie Bouzkova)
June 19-27 2026 — Bad Homburg Open, GO (Karolina Muchova)
June 19-27 2026 — Eastbourne Open, GO (Madison Keys)
June 21-July 11 — The Championships, GO
July 11-19 2026 — Athens, Greece, HO
July 11-19 2026 — UniCredit Iasi Open, CO

The POST Line

MLB
Thursday

Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
White Sox	$100-122	GUARDIANS
ROYALS	OFF	Rays
RANGERS	$110-134	Tigers
MARINERS	$169-210	Angels
PHILLIES	$108-132	Pirates
BREWERS	$160-198	Reds
Marlins	$128-157	ROCKIES
BRAVES	OFF	Cardinals
DODGERS	OFF	Padres

Home team in CAPS

WNBA
Thursday

Favorite	PTS (O/U)	Underdog
Dream	7.5 (165.5)	MYSTICS
Wings	8.5 (170.5)	SUN
MERCURY	4.5 (169.5)	Storm
	Friday	
Lynx	2.5 (172.5)	**LIBERTY**
ACES	10.5 (182.5)	Sky

FIFA World Cup
Thursday- Round of 32

Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
*Spain	$475-650	Austria
**Portugal	$195-250	Croatia
***Switzerland	$155-200	Algeria
*Los Angeles, **Toronto, ***Vancouver		
	Friday-Round of 32	
*Egypt	$110-140	Australia
**Argentina	$900-1600	Cape Verde
***Colombia	$320-450	Ghana
*Dallas, **Miami, ***Kansas City		
	Saturday- Round of 16	
*Morocco	$200-250	Canada
**France	$825-1400	Paraguay
*Houston, **Philadelphia		
	Sunday- Round of 16	
*Brazil	$170-220	Norway
**England	$125-160	Mexico
*MetLife Stadium, **Mexico City		
	Monday- Round of 16	
Belgium	-110-115	**United States**
game held in Seattle		

TOP PLAY

No extra time needed for Portugal to get by

By ERICH RICHTER

Perhaps the marquee match of the day Thursday will be Portugal battling Croatia for a place in the Round of 16.

At 7 p.m., *Os Navegadores*, led by Cristiano Ronaldo, come in as -125 favorites on the three-way moneyline and a high price of -250 to advance.

A lot of respect as always for a solid Portuguese side that prefers to dominate possession and attack in waves, led by Bruno Fernandes and Bernardo Silva, while Ronaldo is relied on to finish the ball on crosses and headers.

CRISTIANO RONALDO

Croatia wants to slow it down, control the tempo and beat its opposition on the break.

Luka Modric battles against Ronaldo in a classic old guard battle, with Modric as high as +750 to score (DraftKings) while Ronaldo is +110 (FanDuel).

Midfield will be a chess match, considering Portugal has a high-energy midfield while Croatia features a veteran-filled unit that hopes to beat them stylistically.

So far in the tournament, Portugal has 3.77 xG, while Croatia has just 2.76 xG.

If you expect this Portuguese squad to dominate the midfield, where Croatia has been leaky, you'd expect Portugal's coach, Roberto Martínez, to be able to navigate them to a mostly painless victory.

I'll take Portugal to win on Thursday in a big way as the far more trustworthy group to win inside 90 minutes.

Ronaldo to score at +100 isn't quite good enough for me. Some sharp betting shop in Vegas have as high as +125, which is where I'd be happier to wager.

THE PLAYS: Portugal wins in 90 minutes (-125, DraftKings); Ronaldo to score if odds get to +125-range.

SPORTS SHORTS

NHL: Hischier extends Devils deal

The Devils locked up captain **Nico Hischier** for the long term, signing the Swiss center to a five-year extension worth $58.5 million with an annual cap hit of $11.7 million from 2027 through 2032. Hischier was entering the final season of a seven-year deal worth $50.7 million.

● The Blackhawks signed **Bowen Byram** to a six-year, $75 million contract extension, making him the NHL's top-paid defenseman in average annual salary.

● Montreal agreed to re-sign **Ivan Demidov** to an eight-year, $73 million contract after the 20-year-old Russian forward led all NHL rookies with 62 points.

● The Flyers went on a spending spree, signing forward **Tyson Foerster** to an eight-year, $56.8 million deal and retaining goaltender **Dan Vladar** on a five-year, $27.5 million contract extension.

● The Sharks signed former Rangers defenseman **Jacob Trouba** to a four-year, $33 million contract. Earlier in the day, the Sharks acquired defenseman **Darnell Nurse** from the Oilers for defenseman **Shakir Mukhamadullin** and prospect forward **Zack Sharp**.

● Two-time Stanley Cup champion goalie **Sergei Bobrovsky** departed from the Florida Panthers as the 38-year-old signed a three-year, $21 million contract with the Maple Leafs.

TENNIS: Serena suffers injury

Serena Williams announced that she tweaked her right knee toward the end of the first set of her 6-3, 6-7 (6), 6-3 loss to 20-year-old **Maya Joint** of Australia in the first round of Wimbledon on Tuesday in London.

The 44-year-old Williams was excused from meeting with the media to treat the injury and said she still hopes to play doubles with sister **Venus** later in the week.

Barbora Krejcikova earned her biggest victory on Centre Court since winning the 2024 Wimbledon title by knocking out French Open champion **Mirra Andreeva** 4-6, 7-5, 6-4 in the second round.

Novak Djokovic finished off Day 3 by beating **Stefanos Tsitsipas** 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 on Centre Court to continue his quest for a 25th major title.

NBA: Spurs sign veteran Harris

San Antonio and forward **Tobias Harris** agreed to a two-year, $31 million contract, according to ESPN. Harris, who turns 34 later this month, served as a valuable role player for the Pistons over the past two seasons.

● **Marcus Smart**, the NBA's Defensive Player of the Year in 2022, is about to join his fourth team in a span of 17 months after agreeing with the Rockets on a two-year deal worth about $12.7 million, a person with knowledge of those talks told The Associated Press.

● **Norman Powell** has agreed to a two-year deal that could be worth up to $45 million with the Bulls, a person with knowledge of the talks said.

MLB: Swanson, Cubs pound Padres

Dansby Swanson hit three home runs, including a grand slam, **Michael Conforto** homered twice and the Cubs pounded the Padres 23-3 in Chicago. Swanson had a career-high eight RBIs — second most in major league history from a player batting ninth.

● Nationals pitcher **Cade Cavalli** apologized for shouting "sit down, boy!" at Red Sox first baseman **Willson Contreras** while instigating a benches-clearing scrum a night earlier. The Nationals went on to defeat Boston 10-2.

Pitching Form

		(Game time)	2026			'25 vs OPP		CAREER	LAST 3 STARTS		
			W-L	ERA	*REC	W-L	ERA	vs OPP	W-L	IP	ERA
White Sox	Martin (R)		9-3	3.00	12-4	1-1	4.50	1-3	0-1	14.2	6.14
Guardians	Cecconi (R)	(6:40pm)	4-6	4.18	6-11	0-1	7.27	0-1	1-1	17.2	1.53
Rays	Seymour (L)		4-1	4.32	2-1	—	—	—	0-1	11.1	4.05
Royals	Kolek (R)	(7:40pm)	4-2	4.15	6-3	—	—	0-0	1-1	14.0	6.43
Tigers	Valdez (L)		4-5	4.04	7-10	1-1	2.70	9-6	1-0	18.0	2.50
Rangers	Eovaldi (R)	(8:05pm)	8-7	3.95	9-7	1-0	0.00	5-0	3-0	20.0	2.70
Angels	Ureña (R)		5-6	3.14	6-7	0-0	0.00	0-0	1-2	16.1	5.51
Mariners	Miller (R)	(9:40pm)	3-2	1.97	3-4	1-1	5.17	2-2	1-2	18.2	2.89
Pirates	Jones (R)		1-1	5.76	4-2	0-0	0.00	0-1	0-1	11.2	6.94
Phillies	Rangel (R)	(12:35pm)	0-1	4.50	0-0	0-0	6.00	—	—	—	—
Reds	Burns (R)		9-1	2.36	12-4	0-0	0.00	0-0	2-0	16.0	3.38
Brewers	Misiorowski (R)	(2:10pm)	9-3	1.46	10-6	0-0	14.73	0-0	2-1	21.0	1.29
Marlins	Gusto (R)		0-2	5.06	3-2	—	—	—	0-1	12.1	4.38
Rockies	Lorenzen (R)	(3:10pm)	3-9	6.83	6-11	0-0	6.23	4-2	1-1	16.0	3.94
Cardinals	May (R)		5-6	4.30	8-7	0-1	3.38	0-2	2-0	17.0	3.18
Braves	Waldrep (R)	(7:15pm)	0-0	0.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Padres	Vásquez (R)		6-6	4.44	9-6	0-2	8.22	0-3	1-2	12.1	8.76
Dodgers	Sasaki (R)	(10:10pm)	3-5	4.88	6-8	0-1	6.75	0-1	0-2	14.0	8.36

* **REC:** Won-lost record of pitcher's team in games he has started.

STITCHES

Brews chase Burns, back Misi'

The heat is on. Get your speed guns and thermometers ready. With high temperatures nearing 100 degrees, fireballers Chase Burns and Jacob Misiorowski will start at American Family Field in Milwaukee.

The Reds' Chase Burns is 9-1 but was chased after giving up five runs on nine hits at Pittsburgh. It was his worst start of the season. The Brewers' Misiorowski is 9-3 and hasn't allowed more than three runs in a game all year.

He lowered his ERA to a paltry 1.45 by tossing a two-hitter at the Cubs and is now 5-0 at home. Not a fan of teams that are this heavily favored, but we will take the Brewers (-198) and Misiorowski for $50.

+$

The Mets, yes, the Mets, put us back in positive territory by slaying the Jays on Tuesday. Max Meyer and the Marlins put us back under. Meyer suffered his first loss of the year. The Rockies KO'd the Fish 6-3. Down -66 geronimoberroas.

stitches@nypost.com

Home Team Lineups

HOME AWAY

	TODAY July 2	FRI July 3	SAT July 4	SUN July 5	MON July 6
	NO GAME	Minnesota 7:05 YES 660 AM 101.9 FM	Minnesota 1:35 YES 660 AM 101.9 FM	Minnesota 1:35 Peacock NBCSN Extra 660 AM/101.9 FM	Tampa Bay 6:40 YES 660 AM 101.9 FM
	NO GAME	Atlanta 7:15 PIX11 880 AM	Atlanta 8:08 Fox 880 AM	Atlanta 12:30 NBC Peacock 880 AM	Atlanta 7:15 SNY 880 AM
	NO GAME	Minnesota 7:30 ION	NO GAME	NO GAME	NO GAME

Wednesday, July 22		Wednesday, July 22		Saturday	
	FIFA World Cup Break until July 22		FIFA World Cup Break until July 22		San Diego Wave FC 8:45 ION

Today's Sports on the Air

MEN'S SOCCER: FIFA WORLD CUP		
3 p.m.	Round of 32: Spain vs. Austria	Fox, Telemundo
7 p.m.	Round of 32: Portugal vs. Croatia	Fox, Telemundo
11 p.m.	Round of 32: Switzerland vs. Algeria	FS1, Telemundo
MLB BASEBALL		
12:30 p.m.	Pirates at Phillies	MLBN
3:30 p.m.	Marlins at Rockies (joined in progress)	MLBN
10 p.m.	Padres at Dodgers	MLBN
WNBA BASKETBALL		
8 p.m.	Wings at Sun	Prime Video
TENNIS		
6 a.m.	ATP/WTA: Wimbledon, 2nd Round	ESPN
GOLF		
6:30 a.m.	DP World Tour: BMW International Open, 1st Round	Golf
11 a.m.	PGA Tour Champions: U.S. Senior Open Championship, 1st Rd.	Golf
4 p.m.	PGA Tour: John Deere Classic, 1st Round	Golf
5:30 p.m.	PGA Tour Champions: U.S. Senior Open Championship, 1st Rd.	NBCSN
CFL FOOTBALL		
9 p.m.	Toronto Argonauts at Calgary Stampeders	CBSSN
MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL		
6:30 p.m.	Worcester Red Sox at Syracuse Mets	SNY
7 p.m.	Wilmington Blue Rocks at Hudson Valley Renegades	YES
MEN'S SOCCER		
9:30 p.m.	USL League One: One Knoxville at Boise	ESPN2
SOFTBALL		
7 p.m.	Athletes Unlimited: Cascade at Bandits	ESPN
RUGBY		
10 a.m.	World Junior Championships Pool Stage: England vs. U.S.	CBSSN
AFL FOOTBALL		
5:25 a.m. (Fri.)	Western at Sydney	FS2

MLB

Favorites to win AL Cy Young

PLAYER	ODDS	PLAYER	ODDS
Cam Schlittler	+145	Tarik Skubal	65/1
Dylan Cease	+330	George Kirby	7/10
Drew Rasmussen	+650	Sonny Gray	7/10
Jacob deGrom	17/1	Parker Messick	70/1
Gavin Williams	27/1	Nathan Eovaldi	80/1
Bryan Woo	35/1	MacKenzie Gore	100/1
Joe Ryan	35/1	Louis Varland	100/1
Logan Gilbert	35/1	Emerson Hancock	100/1
Ranger Suarez	35/1	Davis Martin	100/1
Kevin Gausman	6/10	Bryce Miller	100/1

Favorites to win NL Cy Young

PLAYER	ODDS	PLAYER	ODDS
Jacob Misiorowski	-210	Yoshinobu Yamamoto	30/1
Cristopher Sánchez	+280	Chase Burns	35/1
Paul Skenes	19/1	Kyle Harrison	45/1
Chris Sale	19/1	Shohei Ohtani	55/1
Zack Wheeler	30/1	Braxton Ashcraft	65/1

ODDS & ENDS

WORLD CUP

Thursday

Spain vs. Austria

3-WAY BETTING (90 minutes plus stoppage time)	ODDS
Spain	-300
Draw	+400
Austria	+850

TOTAL GOALS (including extra time)	ODDS
Over 2.5	-164
Under 2.5	+134

ANYTIME GOAL SCORER (including extra time)	ODDS
Mikel Oyarzabal (Spain)	-105
Lamine Yamal (Spain)	+115
Nico Williams (Spain)	+175
Dani Olmo (Spain)	+190
Alex Baena (Spain)	+220
Marko Arnautovic (Aus)	+460

BOTH TEAMS SCORE (including extra time)	ODDS
Yes	+120
No	-152

Portugal vs. Croatia

3-WAY BETTING (90 minutes plus stoppage time)	ODDS
Portugal	-125
Draw	+260
Croatia	+380

TOTAL GOALS (including extra time)	ODDS
Over 2.5	-144
Under 2.5	+118

ANYTIME GOAL SCORER (including extra time)	ODDS
Cristiano Ronaldo (Por)	+100
Joao Felix (Por)	+200
Bruno Fernandes (Por)	+240
Ante Budimir (Cro)	+270
Pedro Neto (Por)	+290
Andrej Kramaric (Cro)	+310

BOTH TEAMS SCORE (including extra time)	ODDS
Yes	-128
No	+100

Switzerland vs. Algeria

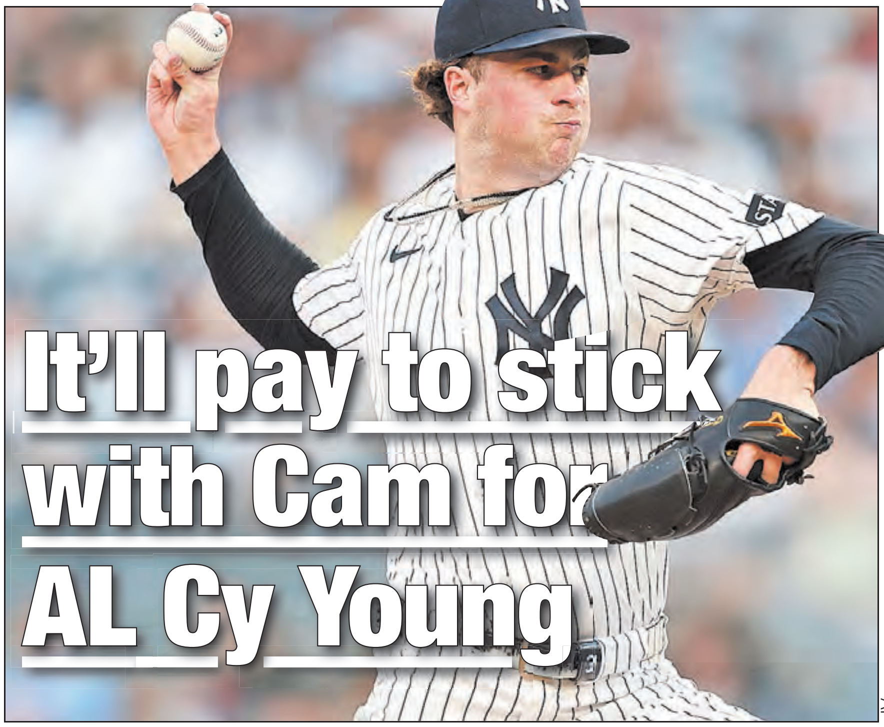
3-WAY BETTING (90 minutes plus stoppage time)	ODDS
Switzerland	+100
Draw	+230
Algeria	+280

TOTAL GOALS (including extra time)	ODDS
Over 2.5	-134
Under 2.5	+110

ANYTIME GOAL SCORER (including extra time)	ODDS
Breel Embolo (Swi)	+135
Amine Gouiri (Alg)	+260
Riyad Mahrez (Alg)	+270
Johan Manzambi (Swi)	+270
Ruben Vargas (Swi)	+280
Granit Xhaka (Swi)	+480

BOTH TEAMS SCORE (including extra time)	ODDS
Yes	-132
No	+104

BET SMART



It'll pay to stick with Cam for AL Cy Young

AP

$TILL THE ONE: Two rough starts dropped favorite Cam Schlittler (above) closer to the pack for AL Cy Young. He's still the favorite to win but now sits at plus money, and The Post's Malik Smith advises to grab it now before the Yankee gets hot again.

By MALIK SMITH

Everything is going wrong in The Bronx right now.

The losses are starting to pile up for a Yankees team that has played awful baseball in June for the fourth year in a row.

Injuries have created some uncertainty, with Aaron Judge, Giancarlo Stanton, Trent Grisham, Ryan McMahon and Max Fried all missing time.

Even with all the concerns, Cam Schlittler was arguably the brightest spot for the Yankees after his amazing start to the season.

Schlittler was so good for the first two months of the season — he amassed a 9-3 record with a 1.50 ERA in his first 12 starts — that he moved from 100/1 to the favorite to win the American League Cy Young. He was -125 to win at BetMGM entering his most recent start.

But even Schlittler isn't immune to the June slump that has plagued the pinstripes. In his two most recent starts, Schlittler has allowed 10 runs combined in nine innings pitched. If you include his start against the Guardians to start the month, he gave up more runs in those three losses than he did between March and May.

"It took me 30-plus starts to finally get my teeth kicked in," Schlittler said after a loss against the Tigers in which he allowed a career-high four home runs. "There are lessons to be learned from this."

Bettors should take heed. It would be easy to jump off the bandwagon now that Schlittler looks like he's come back to earth, but he's still the favorite to win the award, and deservedly so.

Entering Wednesday's games, Schlittler was +145 at FanDuel to win AL Cy Young with Dylan Cease listed at +330 and Drew Rasmussen listed at +650. The rest of the field is 17/1 or longer.

It's natural to wonder if age and inexperience will work against Schlittler, but 18 games isn't a small sample, and that's not counting what we saw from him last season. He's actually as good as advertised and still deserves to be the frontrunner.

His ERA jumped from 1.50 to 2.08 after a rough month, and that still leads the AL. He's also the leader in WAR among AL pitchers with a 3.6 mark, second in WHIP (0.962) and second in strikeouts (123).

Digging deeper into his Statcast data, his xERA (3.12) and xwOBA (.277) are only slightly higher than Cease's and Rasmussen's, his main competition. I'm willing to believe these past two games were a blip on the radar for Schlittler based on the strong evidence he's shown this season that he's the real deal.

From a betting value standpoint, it's unlikely that Schlittler will be plus money to win AL Cy Young unless he completely falls apart. If he swings back the other way, or even has a second half that falls somewhere in the middle, books will likely keep him as the favorite based on the body of work we've seen so far.

I'm willing to bet on the eventual bounce back and grab Schlittler at +145 to win Cy Young at his low point before his stock goes back up.

24
BONNER
AT&T
PHOENIX
25
MERCURY
WNBA PRIDE COACH

GOTTA ACT FAST! WNBA commissioner Cathy Engelbert (inset) needs to be quick to take a stance and address concerns, as she should have done with the Alyssa Thomas-Caitlin Clark situation, writes The Post's Madeline Kenney.

Imagn Images

‘SILENT’ AGAIN

WNBA commish fails at handling crises proactively

FANS showered WNBA commissioner Cathy Engelbert with disapproval as she presented the Liberty with the Commissioner’s Cup trophy after Tuesday’s 93-85 win against the Las Vegas Aces.

The chorus of boos hurled from every corner of Barclays Center was deafening and relentless. There was no mistaking Engelbert was the target of the fans’ disdain. The jeers started when she grabbed the microphone and didn’t let up until she handed it off.

It was the second time in eight months Engelbert has been booed so spectacularly.

Even after helping secure a historic collective bargaining agreement earlier this year, Engelbert, the WNBA’s first commissioner, can’t catch a break.

Then again, she doesn’t do herself any favors either.

Even if Engelbert didn’t want to speak with the press in New York, she had almost a week to take a public leadership stance on the Alyssa Thomas-Caitlin Clark incident and the subsequent fallout. She chose not to.

We shouldn’t be surprised.

Under Engelbert’s leadership, the WNBA has failed to handle crises proactively. Too often, the league sits on its hands only to react when an issue becomes too grand to ignore.

That’s what happened Tuesday.

Hours before the Commissioner’s Cup final tipped off, Thomas put the WNBA and Engelbert on blast for not protecting players.

Thomas said she received death threats and was called racial slurs online after committing a flagrant foul on Clark. She said she hadn’t heard from Engelbert despite the online and targeted vitriol she and her teammates had received.

Madeline Kenney

“As usual, she remains silent,” Thomas told reporters. “And that’s unfortunate when our lives are being threatened.”

A source with knowledge of the situation said Engelbert “exchanged texts and offered to get on a call with Alyssa Thomas last week.” It’s unclear whether the call ever happened.

The WNBA on Thursday retroactively assessed Thomas a flagrant-2 foul and handed her a one-game suspension for “recklessly making contact with her fist to the throat area” of Clark.

Not addressing the contact on Clark during the game was a failure on that game’s referee crew, who should’ve been on high alert following a heated Fever-Mercury game just two days prior. Again, the league reacted under the mounting pressure.

Thomas said she didn’t find out about her first career suspension until about 10 minutes before it was announced.

“A lot of us, myself included, didn’t even know the play took place until after the game,” Thomas said, “and now we’re being painted as thugs and there’s death threats out on us, so it’s really unacceptable. It’s something that needs to change in this league, and I’m really sick and tired of it.”

After Thomas’ comments went viral, Engelbert released a written statement “vehemently” condemning “any and all forms of hate.”

“The safety and well-being of everyone in our community is always the league’s top priority,” Engelbert said. “We are aware of Alyssa Thomas’ comments, and what she and her teammates have experienced is completely unacceptable and not representative of the WNBA community. The league and our security team have been in contact with the Phoenix Mercury organization and remain committed to protecting all players.”

This isn’t a one-off issue for the WNBA, which tends to let fires burn unattended for far too long before inevitably getting burned.

At the end of last season, Lynx star Napheesa Collier released a fiery statement, saying, in part, that the WNBA had “the worst leadership in the world.”

The strained relationship between Engelbert and players may be beyond repair. But one thing is clear: A cookie-cutter statement isn’t the way to fix problems, especially when players already feel unsupported.

Engelbert and the league at large need to take the initiative to address concerns rather than waiting for the next round of damage control.

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Dëmin eyes connection with top rook

By BRIAN LEWIS

For Egor Dëmin, the offseason checklist is simple, if not easy:

Win the Summer League, build a backcourt connection with rookie Mikel Brown Jr. and ride that into the regular season.

“The first thing, the goal of the whole team is win Summer League,” Dëmin said. “My goal is to benefit that as much as I can and bring the biggest impact I can.

“And building a connection with the whole team, especially the rookies. With Mikel to be on the court as much as we can together and work this whole thing through before we actually start playing in the season.”

Last season, the Nets made Dëmin their first lottery pick in 15 years, then drafted another guard with the sixth pick last month. But their skill sets not only aren’t redundant, they are actually complementary.

“They can obviously play together,” coach Jordi Fernández said. “Egor provides gravity and elite shooting, obviously ballhandling too. And Mikel, more of a primary ballhandler, very good athlete, scorer, too. So we’re gonna obviously see it in Summer League, but I don’t see any problems with them playing together.”

There had better not be. The Nets have largely staked their rebuild on the pair not only being able to survive but thrive playing together.

Dëmin is better suited off the ball, and his shooting should accentuate Brown’s athleticism and downhill juice. With Dëmin recovered from a plantar fascia injury, the pairing will get their first look together in the California Summer League or ensuing Las Vegas Summer League.

“I love [the fit],” Dëmin said. “[His skills] are going to benefit my game. It’s going to be important to be dialed in with my shooting, and having a guy like this by my side who’s going to get all the defense on him, get to the paint, this is where we can benefit from each other. He shoots the lights out, so for me bringing the ball up sometimes — playing something for him or looking for opportunities in transition — that’s something we could really build on. We could be a special combo.”

For his part, Dëmin swatted away questions about the plantar fascia injury that ended his rookie campaign, saying he’s fine. He’s added 13 to 15 pounds from last year, strength that could help him get downhill.

“We’re about to find out. But being on balance, touching the paint and playing off two feet, you need that strength. He’s done an unbelievable job working in the weight room,” Fernández said. “He looks more like a grown-up, and he’s going to do things way better than he did last year.”

TOUGH BLOW: Syracuse transfer Donnie Freeman was expected to provide some frontcourt help for St. John's after the Red Storm lost Zuby Ejiofor, Bryce Hopkins and Dillon Mitchell to the NBA draft. Getty Images

An early test

SJU loses Freeman to Achilles injury, leaving frontcourt thin

By ZACH BRAZILLER

Adversity has come very early for St. John's — several months before the Johnnies' first game of the 2026-27 season.

Donnie Freeman, the Red Storm's projected starting power forward, will miss all of next year after suffering a torn Achilles tendon injury during a workout, coach Rick Pitino announced on X on Wednesday afternoon. It was a noncontact injury for the highly regarded, 6-foot-9 Syracuse transfer. He has already undergone surgery.

"Donnie is an awesome young man, we will get him back better than ever!" Pitino wrote on X.

Freeman averaged 16.5 points, 7.2 rebounds and 1.3 assists last season, and was seen as a major addition for St. John's, which beat out Kentucky. Freeman was ranked among the top 20 players to enter the transfer portal. It is uncertain if St. John's will look to add another player.

It does have potential replacements for Freeman, namely in 6-8 forward Babacar Sane. The versatile Senegalese forward spent last year playing in the top professional league in Germany. Sane previously spent two years with G-League Ignite, the developmental team for top prospects. The coaching staff is also high on 6-7 Montenegrin wing Djordjije Jovanovic, who spent this past season with Buducnost VOLI in the EuroCup and Adriatic Basketball Association (ABA). St. John's also has two young big men, American forward Theo Edema and Serbian pivot Lazar Stojkovic, who could see extended minutes as a result of the injury.

So, there are options, both young and old. The addition of top transfer Tounde Yessoufou looks even bigger now. The high-flying wing from Baylor went through the NBA draft process, but pulled out hours before the deadline, and picked the Johnnies over UCLA, Kentucky and Louisville. Yessoufou, returning guard Ian Jackson and British import Quinn Ellis of the EuroLeague are expected to form one of the premier backcourts in the country.

A year ago, St. John's strength was its frontcourt, a trio featuring Zuby Ejiofor, Bryce Hopkins and Dillon Mitchell, all of whom were drafted. Next winter, the Red Storm's strength may be their guard play, especially after losing Freeman.

zbraziller@nypost.com

Sally Brompton Daily Horoscope

♋ **CANCER**
(June 22-July 23)
An issue that has been bothering you for some time must be dealt with. The planets warn if you let it drag on much longer, there could soon be no way back and at the very least you will be seriously out of pocket, so get it sorted.

♌ **LEO**
(July 24-Aug. 23)
You may not have been on the best of terms with someone of late, but you can easily reverse the situation, merely by pointing out that your constant bickering is doing neither of you any good. Bury the hatchet — but not in each other!

♍ **VIRGO**
(Aug. 24-Sept. 23)
Choose a goal and stick with it until it's done, even if it takes years of sweat and effort and tears to get it right. You don't have to run yourself into the ground, but you must let the world know you mean serious business.

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT YOURSELF AND WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS AT SALLYBROMPTON.COM

♎ **LIBRA**
(Sept. 24-Oct. 23)
If you are in any way dissatisfied with your lot, then what is taking place in and around the career area of your chart will offer a remedy. You will, though, have to accept that your best future lies a long way from here.

♏ **SCORPIO**
(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
You won't be able to wriggle your way out of a chore of some kind, so don't waste time trying. You can, though, make it a whole lot more interesting by treating it as a pleasure — and no one is better at winning games than you.

♐ **SAGITTARIUS**
(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)
You need to free your mind so it can start moving in more exciting directions. The old ways of looking at life are pretty much over and done with and what occurs over the next few days will clue you in as to what comes next.

♑ **CAPRICORN**
(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)
You may have your doubts about a business matter, but those doubts won't stick around for long, so stop worrying and start behaving in a more positive fashion. The universe wants you to be rich, so maybe you should want it, too.

♒ **AQUARIUS**
(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
No matter how committed you may be to reaching a specific goal, there is a growing amount of evidence that suggests you are not going to make it. Be smart and recognize that, on this occasion, you aimed a bit too high and a lot too soon.

♓ **PISCES**
(Feb. 20-Mar. 20)
Make use of the Sun in the most dynamic area of your chart to push ahead with your plans and show those who think you're not good enough that you have what it takes. Use their negativity to fuel your drive and ambition.

♈ **ARIES**
(March 21-April 20)
There is no point trying to force the pace when friends and colleagues clearly lack the ability to keep up with you. If they are unwilling or unable to act as your wingman, then fly solo and show them how it should be done.

♉ **TAURUS**
(April 21-May 21)
You will need to make a quick decision about something over the next 24 hours, and the moment you make it you will probably regret it. But why? No one expects you to get everything right, so don't expect it of yourself.

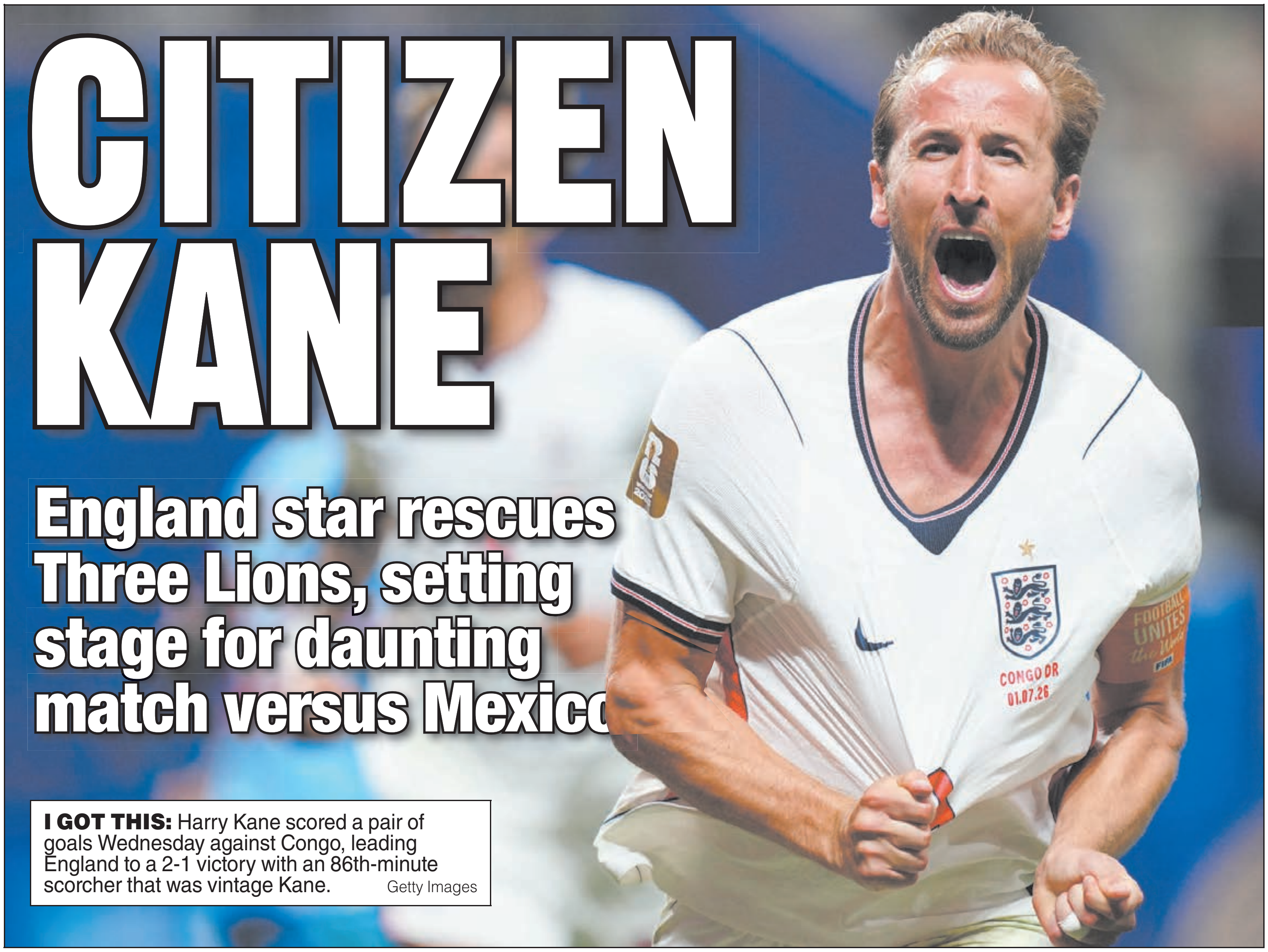
♊ **GEMINI**
(May 22-June 21)
The next few days will see major changes in your life, so prepare yourself mentally and emotionally and keep telling yourself that you have what it takes. Deep down you already know what needs to be done — so get on and do it.

BIRTHDAY THURSDAY

If you quiet your mind and let your inner voice speak to you, it won't be long before you discover what your true destiny is. For too long, you have been jumping back and forth between competing ambitions. Focus only on the one that matters.

CITIZEN KANE

England star rescues Three Lions, setting stage for daunting match versus Mexico



I GOT THIS: Harry Kane scored a pair of goals Wednesday against Congo, leading England to a 2-1 victory with an 86th-minute scorcher that was vintage Kane. Getty Images

By ETHAN SEARS

Joy sandwiched by anxiety is about as profoundly English as anything, and so how fitting was Wednesday afternoon?

The Three Lions escaped Atlanta 2-1 victors over Congo thanks to an utterly heroic Harry Kane brace, their best-ever player scoring what was surely his best-ever international goal in beating a trio of defenders before a cracking 86th-minute finish past Lionel Mpasi.

ENGLAND	**2**	**World Cup Round of 32**
CONGO	**1**	

Before that, it was nail-biting. Afterward, too, given what awaits in the Round of 16, when England travels to face Mexico in front of one of the sport's greatest backdrops, a roaring Estadio Azteca that 40 years ago was the scene of England's most famous World Cup defeat.

That match Sunday night in Mexico City has every chance to be an epic occasion, the sort of scene to put an already terrific tournament over the top. Mexico won all three of its group games and cut through Ecuador on Tuesday night, riding the crowd, Julián Quiñones and Raúl Jiménez to a 2-0 win that set off street celebrations deep into the night as far north as San Jose, mere blocks from the U.S. men's national team's hotel.

The joy at play there was a contrast from how England has felt this entire tournament, the release of Kane's magic moments Wednesday aside.

From leaving off Cole Palmer, Phil Foden and Adam Wharton — a decision by Thomas Tuchel that has been questioned before, during and after all four of England's games, and perhaps the loudest Wednesday — to things as relatively menial as how the North American heat has turned into a daily storyline in the British press, it all feels a bit like the pre-Gareth Southgate England, when every tournament turned into a spectacular crashout.

This England side has more quality than that, and far more mettle. Selection quibbles aside, a veteran Kane with Bundesliga trophies in his pocket, the effervescence of Jude Bellingham and Tuchel's well-timed substitutions were enough to get England through Wednesday in a match that would have surely doomed those perpetually disappointing teams of yesteryear.

One of the early themes of the knockout rounds — Paraguay's win over Germany aside — has been that after taking a punch before the first hydration break, the favorites land on their feet and shine through over 90 long and grueling minutes. So it was in Atlanta, when the first hydration break stymied Congo's momentum and, as shaky as England still was in moments, its opposition never fully regathered itself.

Still, it's hard not to feel there are glaring holes in this team. Djed Spence was woeful Wednesday; Nico O'Reilly not much better. There's a lack of creativity and line-breaking passes, all of which feels like a direct result of opting against bringing Palmer, Foden and Wharton to the World Cup. The 0-0 draw to Ghana set off alarm bells that haven't fully been quieted.

Bellingham was unlucky not to score more than once Wednesday; Declan Rice and Elliot Anderson have proven a strong midfield combination. Tuchel got his substitutions right — Eberechi Eze in particular — and Kane is the sort of player who single-handedly elevates a team's ceiling. It's all still in front of England, which has more talent on its bench than so many teams do in their starting lineups.

The moments when England has looked like a true contender at this World Cup, though, have been few and far between, at least since the second half of its opening win over Croatia.

The Three Lions will need so much more of everything against Mexico than they had Wednesday, starting with composure.

Forty years ago, it was the Hand of God, the Goal of the Century and Argentina's revenge for the Falklands War. Now it will be England against the altitude, the noise and a Mexican team that more and more looks like the genuine article.

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Belgium shocks Senegal

By ANDREW DESTIN

SEATTLE — Belgium overturned a two-goal deficit and scored from the penalty spot deep into extra time to beat Senegal 3-2 on Wednesday in the biggest comeback of the World Cup so far.

Senegal held a 2-0 lead with just 5 minutes of regulation time remaining but late goals by Romelu Lukaku and Youri Tielemans pushed the round of 32 match into extra time.

BELGIUM	**3**	**World Cup Round of 32**
SENEGAL	**2**	

Tielemans completed Belgium's comeback by converting a penalty in the 125th minute of the game – the latest goal in World Cup history.

"Being part of this comeback is a proud moment because I scored the last two goals to give the team the win today. I'm very proud of that to be able to help the team to score goals and bring us over the line," Tielemans said.

He was fouled with only seconds to go and with a penalty shootout looming, and the referee awarded the spot kick after a video review, ignoring protests from the Senegal team.

"I do not want to interpret the decision. We all have different interpretations when it comes to awarding a penalty," Senegal coach Pape Thiaw said. "I'd rather not comment, not interpreting the referee's decision."

The win for Belgium marked the second time in the last 11 World Cups that a team trailed by two or more goals in the knockout round and advanced. Belgium also did so in a 3-2 victory over Japan in the round of 16 at the 2018 tournament.

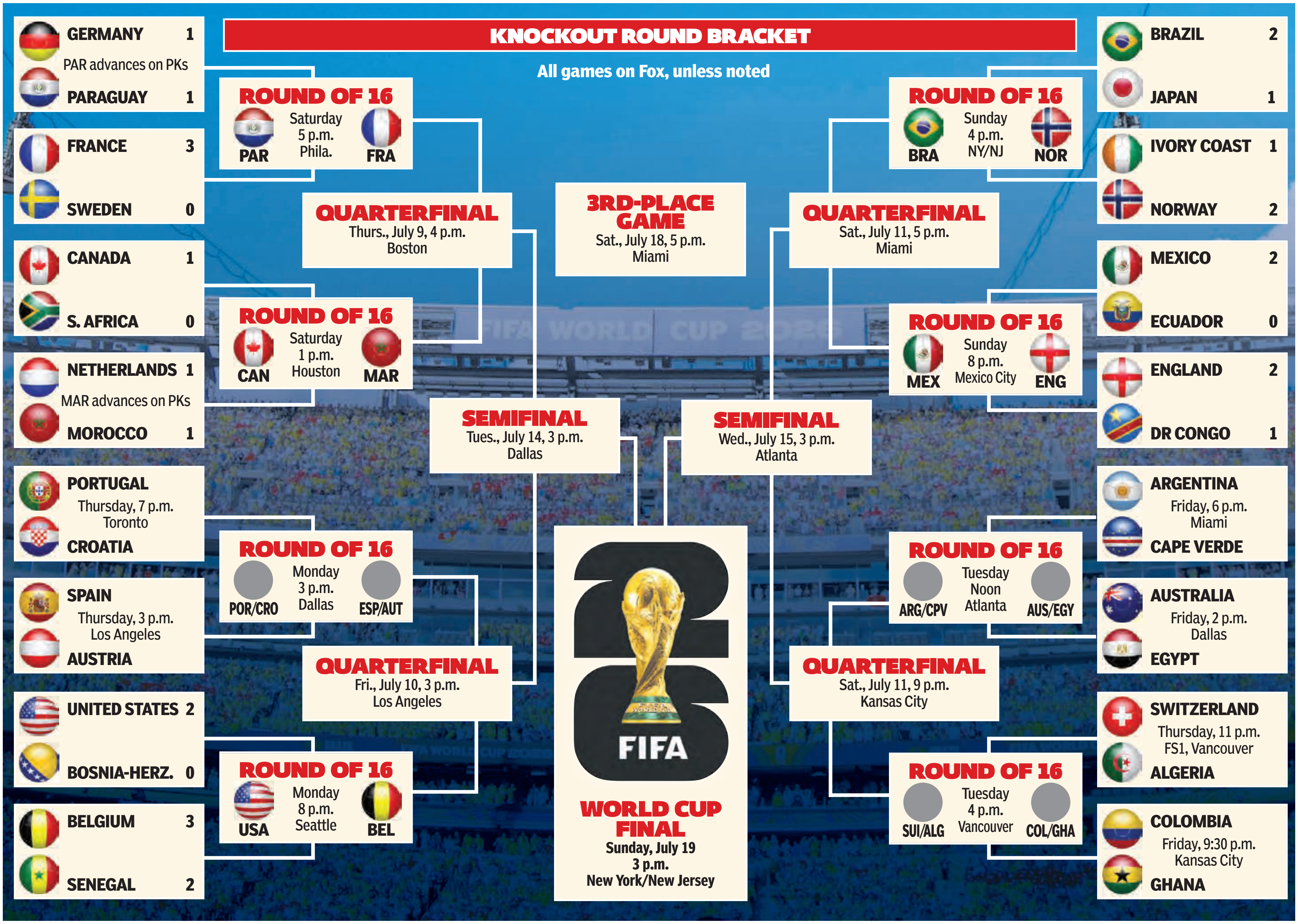
"Senegal deserved to win," Belgium coach Rudi Garcia said. "But, I am happy it was us."

Many of the key players from the Belgium team that finished in third place in Russia in 2018 were instrumental to Wednesday's victory. Lukaku, who leads his nation in goals scored, came off the bench to get Belgium back into the match by scoring in the 86th minute, setting the scene for Tielemans to force extra time.

"It is a cruel loss, as we were good in the game," Thiaw said. — *AP*

WORLD CUP '26

WHERE: USA, MEXICO AND CANADA · WHEN: JUNE 11-JULY 19



KNOCKOUT ROUND BRACKET

All games on Fox, unless noted

GERMANY 1
PAR advances on PKs
PARAGUAY 1

FRANCE 3
SWEDEN 0

CANADA 1
S. AFRICA 0

NETHERLANDS 1
MAR advances on PKs
MOROCCO 1

PORTUGAL
Thursday, 7 p.m.
Toronto
CROATIA

SPAIN
Thursday, 3 p.m.
Los Angeles
AUSTRIA

UNITED STATES 2
BOSNIA-HERZ. 0

BELGIUM 3
SENEGAL 2

ROUND OF 16
PAR Saturday 5 p.m. Phila. FRA

ROUND OF 16
CAN Saturday 1 p.m. Houston MAR

ROUND OF 16
POR/CRO Monday 3 p.m. Dallas ESP/AUT

ROUND OF 16
USA Monday 8 p.m. Seattle BEL

QUARTERFINAL
Thurs., July 9, 4 p.m.
Boston

QUARTERFINAL
Fri., July 10, 3 p.m.
Los Angeles

SEMIFINAL
Tues., July 14, 3 p.m.
Dallas

3RD-PLACE GAME
Sat., July 18, 5 p.m.
Miami

WORLD CUP FINAL
Sunday, July 19
3 p.m.
New York/New Jersey

SEMIFINAL
Wed., July 15, 3 p.m.
Atlanta

QUARTERFINAL
Sat., July 11, 5 p.m.
Miami

QUARTERFINAL
Sat., July 11, 9 p.m.
Kansas City

ROUND OF 16
BRA Sunday 4 p.m. NY/NJ NOR

ROUND OF 16
MEX Sunday 8 p.m. Mexico City ENG

ROUND OF 16
ARG/CPV Tuesday Noon Atlanta AUS/EGY

ROUND OF 16
SUI/ALG Tuesday 4 p.m. Vancouver COL/GHA

BRAZIL 2
JAPAN 1

IVORY COAST 1
NORWAY 2

MEXICO 2
ECUADOR 0

ENGLAND 2
DR CONGO 1

ARGENTINA
Friday, 6 p.m.
Miami
CAPE VERDE

AUSTRALIA
Friday, 2 p.m.
Dallas
EGYPT

SWITZERLAND
Thursday, 11 p.m.
FS1, Vancouver
ALGERIA

COLOMBIA
Friday, 9:30 p.m.
Kansas City
GHANA

Tillman's free kick beauty speaks volumes

By MICHAEL DUARTE

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Sometimes the loudest player on the pitch is the quietest player on the team.

For 81 minutes, U.S. midfielder Malik Tillman had covered nearly every blade of grass. He did what he has done throughout this World Cup: chase, press, recover possession and stitch together the American attack.

Then, with the U.S. clinging to a one-goal lead and hanging on with 10 men after Folarin Balogun's red card, Tillman authored the defining moment of his international career.

His curling free kick in the 82nd minute soared over the Bosnia-Herzegovina wall. By the time it nestled into the top corner of the net, Tillman had covered something even bigger: every doubt that had followed him into this World Cup.

After an uneven season with Bayer Leverkusen that tested his confidence, Tillman arrived at the World Cup determined to treat it as a fresh start. The reinvention has been impossible to ignore. He entered the knockout match leading the Americans with 13 ball recoveries, ranking second with five chances created and already owning an assist for Balogun's opener against Paraguay.

His personality hasn't changed. His quiet demeanor hasn't either.

"No, not really," Tillman said when asked whether he envisioned this becoming his World Cup moment. "I've been dreaming about this game. Dreaming of taking a free kick and scoring a free kick. Like I said, I practiced them in training and I think today showed what I can do."

And what he can do is almost anything on the pitch, including rescuing the Americans and sending them into the Round of 16.

"We were going through all the ways you can possibly take this free kick," Tillman said of the conversation with his teammates before his sparkling goal. "We talked about going under the wall. We talked about going to the side of the keeper. We talked about going over the wall. I know some guys doubted me that I could go over the wall. But I practiced this in training and I'm happy it went in."

The goal sent the stadium into a frenzy and it secured the 2-0 victory.

It was also the perfect moment for a tournament that has quietly transformed Tillman into one of Mauricio Pochettino's most indispensable players.

"He's very special," said Pochettino. "He's one of the most talented players we have in the U.S."

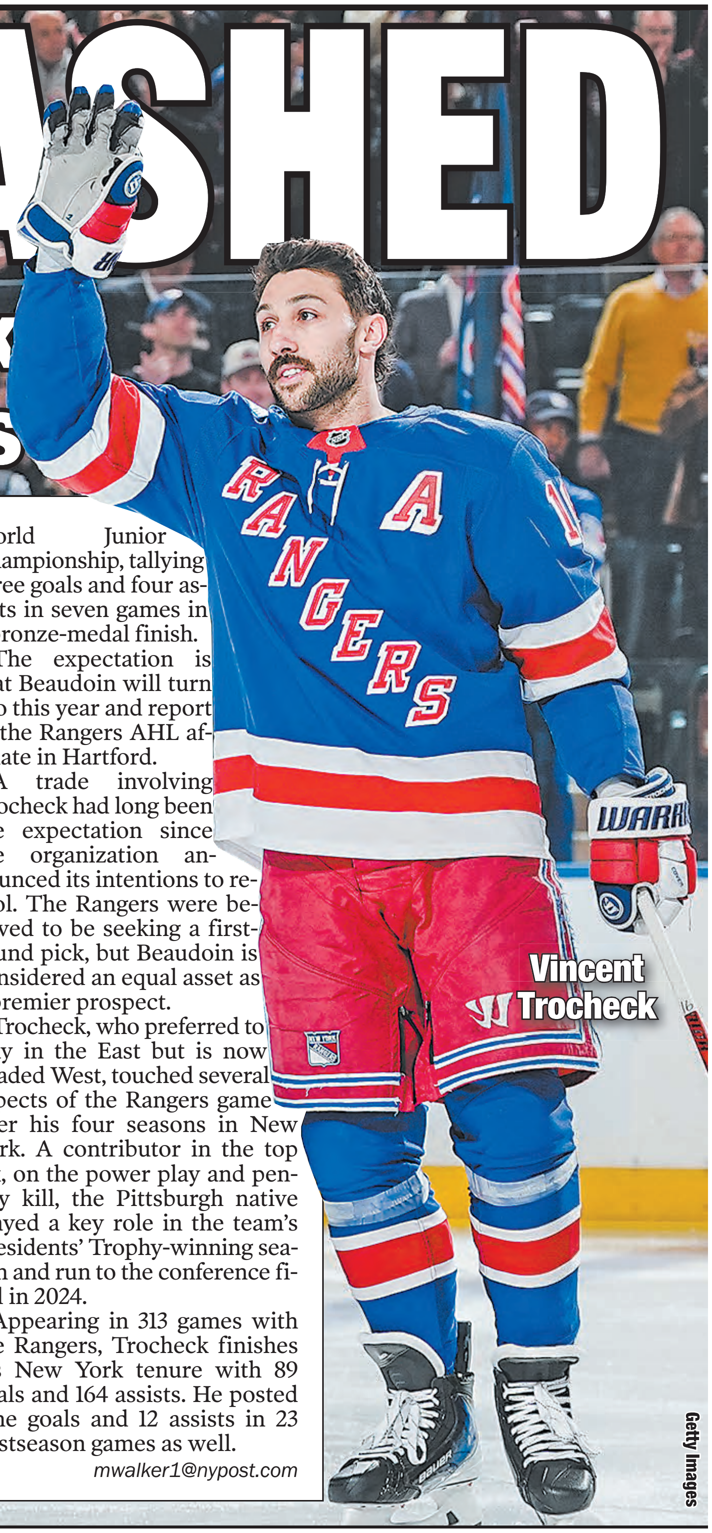
Tillman was asked after the match how he would grade his performance. His humility surfaced again.

"Pretty low," he admitted with a grin. "To be honest, I wasn't satisfied at halftime, especially because of my set pieces. But scoring a goal in a knockout stage game is of course amazing."

For a player whose career has often been misunderstood because of his reserved demeanor, there was poetic justice in the moment.

’CHECK CASHED

Drury deals trusty vet Trocheck to Mammoth for two big pieces


Vincent Trocheck

Getty Images

Movers and shakers

It was a busy first day of free agency for the Rangers, with Chris Drury overhauling the roster. Here’s a look at who’s in and out:

IN

- G **Joonas Korpisalo**
- C **Joe Veleno** (1-year, $1.2 million)
- RW **Oliver Bjorkstrand** (1-year, $4.5 million)
- RHD **Sean Durzi** (right)
- LHD **Marcus Pettersson**
- LHD **Marc Del Gaizo** (2-year, two-way deal, $875K at NHL level)
- C **Cole Beaudoin**
- 2027 3rd-round pick
- 2027 2nd-round pick
- Conditional 2028 3rd-round pick (could become a 2nd)

OUT

- C **Vincent Trocheck**
- RHD **Will Borgen**
- Forward prospect **Kalle Vaisanen**
- 2028 4th-round pick
- Top 10 protected 2030 1st-round pick

By MOLLIE WALKER

Chris Drury held out on trading Vincent Trocheck and was able to tailor the return for the here and now, just like the Rangers president and general manager insinuated would be his mission in the organization’s retooling message to the fans.

And after a busy first day of the free agency window, the Blueshirts look like a redesigned team with notable changes to multiple key areas of need.

In a trade with the Mammoth on Wednesday, Drury was able to fetch top-four defenseman Sean Durzi, top forward prospect Cole Beaudoin and a third-round pick in the 2027 draft in exchange for the 32-year-old Trocheck, The Post first reported.

The Blueshirts had been seeking the right trade partner for a Trocheck deal since the weeks leading up to the trade deadline March 6.

Holding firm on his asking price and ultimately keeping the veteran center through the end of last season, Drury most notably parlayed Trocheck into a young defensive piece and a high-end prospect who is turning pro this year.

Durzi, 27, is a bona fide top-four defenseman and is part of several moves the Rangers have made since the NHL draft this past weekend to fortify their back end ahead of next season.

Regarded as an offensive-minded puck mover, Durzi — a righty shot — can play on both sides and slot onto the second power-play unit. He’s signed through the next two seasons at $6 million per year before he is set to become an unrestricted free agent in the summer of 2028.

The 6-foot-1, 196-pound blueliner also has a 10-team no-trade list over that span.

The inclusion of an NHL player in a deal for Trocheck was crucial, but the prospect pool was bolstered as well.

Beaudoin becomes one of — if not the — top prospect in the Rangers system after this trade.

A first-round pick in 2024 (No. 24), Beaudoin is coming off a career-best 88-point campaign (33 goals, 55 assists in 54 games) while serving as captain for the Barrie Colts of the Ontario Hockey League.

Following it up with 10 goals and 19 assists in 15 playoff games, Beaudoin helped his team reach the OHL championship series.

The Ottawa native was also a point-per-game player for Canada during the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship, tallying three goals and four assists in seven games in a bronze-medal finish.

The expectation is that Beaudoin will turn pro this year and report to the Rangers AHL affiliate in Hartford.

A trade involving Trocheck had long been the expectation since the organization announced its intentions to retool. The Rangers were believed to be seeking a first-round pick, but Beaudoin is considered an equal asset as a premier prospect.

Trocheck, who preferred to stay in the East but is now headed West, touched several aspects of the Rangers game over his four seasons in New York. A contributor in the top six, on the power play and penalty kill, the Pittsburgh native played a key role in the team’s Presidents’ Trophy-winning season and run to the conference final in 2024.

Appearing in 313 games with the Rangers, Trocheck finishes his New York tenure with 89 goals and 164 assists. He posted nine goals and 12 assists in 23 postseason games as well.

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Rangers blue line gets big makeover

By MOLLIE WALKER

The Rangers defense corps received a bit of a makeover.

In a series of moves on the first day of free agency Wednesday, president and general manager Chris Drury revamped the Blueshirts blue line in more ways than one to add some much-needed puck-moving abilities and two-way elements.

Most notably, the Rangers’ second defense pair will look a lot different than it has the last two seasons.

Sean Durzi was a crucial piece of the Rangers’ return for Vincent Trocheck in a deal with the Mammoth. Coming to New York as part of a package with forward prospect Cole Beaudoin and a third-round pick in 2027, the 27-year-old Durzi is an offensive-minded defenseman with notable playmaking abilities from the blue line.

Not only can he quarterback the second power-play unit, but Durzi is also highly regarded for his transition skills. Breaking the puck out was an issue for the Rangers last season, which made it a priority trait this offseason.

The expectation is he will line up on the right side of Marcus Pettersson, whom the Rangers acquired from Vancouver in exchange for a top-10 protected first-round pick in 2030.

Pettersson, 30, eases what was a considerable drop-off from Vladislav Gavrikov on the left side. Having averaged over 20 minutes per game in each of the last four seasons, Pettersson is also a bona fide top four defender.

There is familiarity there with head coach Mike Sullivan, who had Pettersson for parts of seven seasons in Pittsburgh.

Both Durzi and Pettersson have term remaining on their respective contracts. While Durzi carries a cap hit of $6 million over each of the next two seasons (10-team no-trade list), Pettersson is signed through 2030-31 with a no-move clause that modifies to a 15-team no-trade list in the final three years of the deal.

Drury made room for the two new D by trading Will Borgen to the Bruins. The Rangers acquired a 2027 second-round pick and a conditional third-rounder in 2028 in exchange for the 29-year-old Borgen, whose departure takes a chunk of money off the books the next four seasons.

As per the condition, the Blueshirts will receive Boston’s second-round pick in 2028 if the Bruins make the conference final in either of the next two seasons and Borgen plays in 50 percent of the team’s playoff games.

Borgen, who carries a cap hit of $4.1 million through 2029-30, caps his New York tenure with nine goals and 19 assists in 126 games over the last two seasons.

All the movement on defense Wednesday increases the likelihood of Braden Schneider remaining with the Rangers.

The Rangers extended Schneider a qualifying offer earlier this week to retain his negotiating rights, but it wouldn’t be surprising to see a deal reached soon. With Durzi-Pettersson as the Rangers second pair, Schneider could maintain the bottom-pair role he’s filled for a majority of his time in New York.

In one day, the Rangers pieced together a much more formidable top four on defense.

Blueshirts get backup insurance

By MOLLIE WALKER

The Rangers always intended to bring in competition for the backup goalie role that was vacated by Jonathan Quick at the end of last season.

That much was evident from the organization's apparent hesitancy to turn to the 24-year-old Dylan Garand during a critical point last season, when both Quick and No. 1 goalie Igor Shesterkin had separate stints on injured reserve in December and January, respectively.

It made the acquisition of veteran goalie Joonas Korpisalo during the first day of free agency Wednesday an unsurprising development.

RANGERS NOTES

The Blueshirts traded a 2028 fourth-round pick and forward prospect Kalle Vaisanen to the Bruins to bring Korpisalo in as direct competition for Garand, who signed a two-year extension with the Rangers just last month.

Korpisalo posted an .894 save percentage for Boston last season, in addition to saving 13.49 goals more than expected, per Evolving-Hockey.

➤ The Rangers bolstered the middle six and fourth line with a couple of free agent signings.

Oliver Bjorkstrand signed a one-year deal with the Rangers for $4.5 million after leaving the Lightning as a free agent. A right wing who has surpassed 30 points in each of his past nine seasons, Bjorkstrand is extremely versatile in a lineup and has proven capable of contributing 20-plus goals.

Signing **Joe Veleno** to a one-year deal with an average annual value of $1.2 million, the Rangers have slated the 26-year-old as their fourth-line center.

A first-round pick (30th overall) in 2018, Veleno is still young and considered to be untapped talent. He was limited to just five points (two goals, three assists) in 61 regular-season games for Montreal, which did not tender him a qualifying offer.

➤ Left-handed defenseman **Marc Del Gaizo** signed a two-year, two-way deal with the Rangers for just a bit more than the league minimum of $875,000 at the NHL level.

Another UMass alum to come through the Rangers organization, Del Gaizo has primarily played in the AHL over the past six seasons. He got his most notable NHL opportunity with the Predators, for whom he played 55 games over two seasons.

Bye, bye, captain!

Lee leaves Island for 3-year deal with Utah

By ANDREW CRANE

FAREWELL: Anders Lee signed a three-year deal with the Mammoth after 14 years with the Isles, including eight as captain. Corey Sipkin

The Islanders lost their captain.

It was an expected outcome when free agency began Wednesday, but that didn't take away from the sobering reality when Anders Lee signed with the Mammoth on a three-year deal worth $5.4 million in average annual value, according to multiple reports — ending a 14-year run with the Islanders that included the final eight as captain.

The Islanders had the salary cap space and could've created more if needed, general manager Mathieu Darche said. But it all came down to term, and though the door was, according to TSN, still left open for a return after Lee informed the Islanders on Tuesday that he planned to test the market, the sides couldn't compromise.

"The term was tougher for us — and everybody has their own puzzle, depending where you are and your stage," Darche said. "And for him, he felt like he wanted the term, and he's entitled to it. ... It's in his power to see what's out there, and we couldn't come to an agreement.

"I'm actually happy for Anders that he got his term that he wanted and the money he wanted. So good on him for getting what he wanted."

Darche, fittingly, addressed reporters during intermission of the Islanders development camp scrimmage, where their future was on display with players who — one day — might be tasked with stepping into the same role in the top six once occupied by Lee. As he answered questions, Darche certainly sounded like a general manager thinking about what the Islanders could be in the long term and "not just a quick burst for a year and we're right back in the same spot."

But that's all for the future. In the present, eight years after John Tavares walked and Lee stepped into the captaincy months later, the 35-year-old, too, left. Lee, a sixth-round pick in 2009, finished 77 games shy of becoming the fourth player in franchise history to skate in 1,000 games.

It made the other signings of the day — winger Matias Maccelli, goaltender Vitek Vanecek, defenseman Matthew Kessel and forward Mitchell Chaffee, all on one-year deals — seem insignificant when compared to Lee leaving.

It'll mean the Islanders lineup will look different next season without Lee in the top six. It'll mean that someone else — maybe Matthew Schaefer or Mathew Barzal — will become the next captain. It'll mean that the Islanders will need to look elsewhere for not only Lee's 19 goals and 42 points from 2025-26, but also his presence in the dressing room for a team that fired its coach with four games left and missed the playoff cutline by eight points.

Before the regular season ended, as the Islanders were in the middle of the free fall that led to Patrick Roy being fired and Peter DeBoer arriving, Lee didn't hide his desire to remain with the Islanders. It was the only franchise he had ever known. He'd advanced to a conference final with the franchise and fell just short of getting his crack at the Stanley Cup.

"The way he's handled himself the last year," said Darche, who still views the Islanders as a playoff team, "it's not an easy situation for him. He handled it with the utmost class."

But it became clear by the time free agency opened Wednesday that he was likely heading elsewhere. The Wild were involved in trying to pursue Lee, according to The Athletic. Then, the Mammoth, who also acquired Rangers center Vincent Trocheck on Wednesday, secured him.

"We were blown away that we would have the ability today to walk out of here today with a player like that," Mammoth general manager Bill Armstrong told reporters, according to NHL.com.

These are the days that seismically alter a franchise. These are the days that, if the Islanders struggle next year and Lee thrives, could loom large. These are the days that, when all is said and done, will factor into the equation used to define Darche's tenure.

That's what happens with a risk of this magnitude.

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Islanders take chance on wing Maccelli

By ANDREW CRANE

Hours before Anders Lee signed with the Mammoth and drastically changed the outlook of the Islanders roster, Isles general manager Mathieu Darche took a flier on an intriguing forward with plenty of potential in former Maple Leafs winger Matias Maccelli — who signed a one-year deal worth $2.25 million in average annual value, according to TSN.

At his best, Maccelli, who will be a restricted free agent next summer, possesses the potential of someone that Toronto — briefly — wanted skating on the right side of superstar Auston Matthews and is capable of scoring 17 goals, as he did in 2023-24 with the Coyotes. At his worst, the 25-year-old is inconsistent and stuck as a healthy scratch. It'll be on head coach Peter DeBoer and his staff to determine which path Maccelli veers down.

"Matias is definitely a skill player," Darche said. "First of all, he's gonna help us now, and if things go well and he plays well for us and there's a good fit, nothing says that we can't continue with him."

This was supposed to be a quiet day for the Islanders, and it was. Darche previously said that he didn't anticipate significant changes. Maccelli, a fourth-round pick in 2019, hit the open market after the Maple Leafs and new general manager John Chayka opted not to give him a $4.1 million qualifying offer and represents a low-risk move.

Maccelli could be a piece who plays himself into a larger role, with a 57-point campaign on his ledger from 2023-24 and a 14-goal, 39-point campaign on it from last season. In a moment at the Garden last season, he positioned himself by the net and scored 13 seconds into a game against the Rangers. He scored four goals across a five-game stretch in March, too.

"I have been a big fan of your game," DeBoer said on a video call with Maccelli and Darche, which the Islanders posted to social media. "Saw you come in through Phoenix. You were dangerous almost every night in the games when we would play against you guys. You were playing with a lot of confidence. You were playing with a lot of skill."

ISLANDERS NOTES

➤ The Islanders have their goaltending insurance.

While Darche said Saturday that they plan on having **Semyon Varlamov** back up **Ilya Sorokin** if healthy, the Islanders also signed **Vitek Vanecek** to a one-year deal worth $1 million, according to TSN. Vanecek, who won 33 games with the Devils in 2022-23 then won a ring with the Panthers in 2025 as a backup, spent last year with the Mammoth — where he finished with a 5-13-3 record, an .883 save percentage and a 2.03 goals-against average.

Vanecek will essentially fill the role of **David Rittich**. Varlamov has undergone two knee replacement surgeries and last appeared in an NHL game in November 2024, though he appeared in two games with AHL Bridgeport on a conditioning loan late last season.

➤ The Islanders also added defenseman **Matthew Kessel** and forward **Mitchell Chaffee** on one-year deals. Kessel, who has spent his entire career with the Blues organization, doesn't take away from **Isaiah George** competing for a spot on their roster in training camp, Darche said. Chaffee has skated in 109 NHL games and is a former Lightning player.

Be ill at ease

Sick Yanks left Boone no choice but to let Cabrera, not Goldy, hit in 10th

By GREG JOYCE

On Wednesday, seven or eight Yankees dealt with the same symptoms that the team has been inflicting on its fanbase over the past week.

And at least partially, it led to a second-guessable decision by Aaron Boone in the 10th inning of what became a crushing 6-2 loss in 11 innings to the Tigers at Yankee Stadium.

After a handful of players woke up Wednesday morning with some kind of food poisoning or a stomach bug, Boone had to rearrange his lineup and then was somewhat shorthanded by the 10th inning for a critical pinch-hit situation in which he did not ultimately pull the trigger.

In a 2-2 game, the Yankees had the winning run on third with one out and Oswaldo Cabrera at the plate. Paul Goldschmidt was available on the bench, Boone said, but Max Schuemann (the last man left) was not, leading Boone to have Cabrera hit for himself. The utility player, who was called up from Triple-A last week and could return there by Friday, struck out against righty Keider Montero.

"In extra innings, I'd have to put Goldy in at third or second base, which I wasn't going to do," Boone said. "Just obviously a little up against it in that way today."

Boone also could have forfeited the DH and used Amed Rosario to play third base if the game got to 11th.

Either way, he decided not to let Goldschmidt try to just end it in the 10th — a sacrifice fly would have won it — and instead took his chances with Camilo Doval on the mound in the 11th, which did not end well.

"Confidence that Cabrera can touch the ball, too," Boone said.

Along with Schuemann, the known players who were sick included Spencer Jones, who was removed from the original lineup before pinch hitting in the eighth, and Ryan McMahon, who was scratched from his scheduled rehab game Wednesday night but is expected to play in one Thursday before being activated Friday.

"We got IVs going and everything today," Boone said before the game. "Yeah, it's been an interesting week on a lot of fronts."

YANKEES NOTES

➤ **Jazz Chisholm Jr.** returned to the lineup Wednesday after colliding with **Jasson Domínguez** on Monday night and having to leave the game to go through concussion protocol. The second baseman got the green light after going through follow-up testing Tuesday, then went 2-for-5 with a double and two steals.

"I felt pretty good," Chisholm said. "Rough collision, but I took a day off [Tuesday], came back today feeling good."

➤ **Will Warren** turned in his best start in a month, which kept the Yankees hanging around. The right-hander, who pitched to a 5.49 ERA across four June starts, gave up just two runs across 5 ⅓ innings on five hits and no walks with seven strikeouts.

➤ **Trent Grisham** (right hamstring strain) was scheduled to play in a rehab game Wednesday night with Double-A Somerset, and if he came out of it without any issues, he is expected to be activated off the IL on Friday, when the Yankees open a series against the Twins.

BIG WHIFF! Oswaldo Cabrera reacts after striking out in the 10th inning of the Yanks' 6-2 loss to the Tigers.

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CANADIAN CLUBBED

Blue Jays bash Peralta, Amazin's

FREDDY'S NIGHTMARE: Toronto's Sean Keys rounds the bases after hitting a three-run home run off Mets pitcher Freddy Peralta. It was the latest poor outing by the supposed ace, this one resulting in a 9-3 loss. AP

By MIKE PUMA

TORONTO — Freddy Peralta sizzled Wednesday, but only in the sense he was turned into Canadian bacon.

Of all the Mets' disappointments this season, the alleged ace's shortcomings might be the most perplexing. Peralta is in his career prime and physically hasn't provided any hint of ailment.

Five-inning Freddy cut his afternoon short by a frame on Canada Day, after burying his team early in a 9-3 loss to the Blue Jays at Rogers Centre.

BLUE JAYS 9
METS 3

Boxscore Page 40

The Mets (36-51) lost a fifth straight series and sank further into the abyss of a season that may rate as the biggest flop in franchise history. Peralta's latest dud occurred just hours after team owner Steve Cohen told The Post's Joel Sherman and Jon Heyman on "The Show" podcast that president of baseball operations David Stearns' job is safe for the remainder of a five-year contract that runs through 2028.

Offensively, the Mets didn't show life until the eighth, when Carson Benge delivered a two-run homer. Francisco Lindor hit a solo homer in the ninth. The Mets finished with five hits.

Over four innings, Peralta surrendered five earned runs on seven hits with four strikeouts and three walks as his ERA surged to 4.81. It was a third straight lackluster start and second outright clunker by Peralta.

"I don't feel good," Peralta said when asked about his emotional state. "I'm just going to try to come back and make adjustments."

Peralta answered in the affirmative when asked if this felt like the roughest stretch of his career.

"Every day I prepare to have success, but the game is crazy — that's the only way I can describe it right now," Peralta said. "The thing that makes me feel good is I prepare myself really well. I am not being lazy between starts."

Peralta indicated his problems aren't mechanical.

"The pitches are really good — the shape and the velocity was really good, too," he said. "Just move forward."

All of this is occurring against the backdrop of the Aug. 3 trade deadline. Peralta, in his walk year, is among the team's trade chips, but what is his value if he is deemed broken?

Peralta has been far short of the pitcher Stearns thought he was receiving when he dealt Brandon Sproat and Jett Williams to Milwaukee in January in a trade that brought the Mets another struggling pitcher in Tobias Myers (who in recent days was demoted to Triple-A Syracuse for the second time this season).

"We all want [Peralta] to go out there and dominate like we believe he can," interim manager Andy Green said. "For us it's just a matter of getting the fastball where he knows he wins. He's been winning there for a long time in the big leagues. He knows how he's good and why he's good, and we all know it. So, it's just about going out there and executing."

Kazuma Okamoto's RBI single in the first inning put Peralta in a 1-0 hole just three batters into the game. Nathan Lukes' leadoff single and Vladimir Guerrero Jr.'s ensuing double placed Peralta in immediate trouble before Okamoto delivered. Peralta walked Alejandro Kirk later in the inning, but escaped without another run scoring.

But it turned ugly in the third. Okamoto walked to begin the inning and with one out Alejandro Kirk hit a line drive that deflected off Lindor's glove for a single. Peralta retired Yohendrick Piñango for the second out, but Ernie Clement stroked an RBI double. Long Island native Sean Keys delivered the dagger: a three-run blast to left field for his first career homer.

Daulton Varsho's RBI single against Cionel Pérez in the seventh widened the deficit. Myles Straw blasted a three-run homer in the inning that gave the Blue Jays a 9-0 lead.

The Mets' next stop is Atlanta for four games beginning Friday. The Mets won two of three games against the NL East-leading Braves at Citi Field last month.

The Mets' mindset heading to Truist Park?

"Go win baseball games," Green said.

mpuma@nypost.com

UP NEXT

at Braves

FRIDAY: 7:15 p.m., PIX11
SATURDAY: 8:08 p.m., Fox
SUNDAY: 12:30 p.m., NBC
WCBS (880 AM)

Benge blast vs. southpaw a highlight on miserable day

By MIKE PUMA

METS NOTES

TORONTO — Carson Benge cleared the fence in the eighth inning Wednesday, ensuring the Mets wouldn't conclude their trip to Canada by getting shut out.

It was an offensive highlight for the Mets, but more importantly, it showed continued progress for the rookie Benge, who reached double digits with his 10th homer. Interim manager Andy Green liked that Benge's blast was against a left-hander, Patrick Corbin.

For Benge it was continuation into July of his performance last month, when he hit five of his homers.

"Anybody who starts the season the way he did in April, to rebound as a rookie usually has to go to the minor leagues to reset," Green said following the 9-3 loss to the Blue Jays at Rogers Centre. "It says a lot about how he's wired and competes. I think we are pleased with the way he's responded this year. I think there is more inside of him to keep getting better."

Benge finished the day 2-for-5 and owns a .720 OPS. His OPS on May 2 was .498.

➤ **Jorge Polanco**'s rehab assignment with Triple-A Syracuse won't include much, if any, action at first base as the Mets look to keep his left ankle from regressing.

"We're just getting him DH at-bats, and at some point in time we'll find first base when it's time for that," Green said. "But he is a guy that can help us dramatically, even just in the DH spot, so right now it's been DH priorities, and we'll make a determination based on how he's feeling and whether it's the right thing to do to get him to first base or not."

➤ The Mets, following Thursday's day off, will keep their rotation in line for four games in Atlanta. **Christian Scott**, **Sean Manaea**, **Nolan McLean** and **Freddy Peralta** are scheduled to start in succession.

➤ Mets president of baseball operations **David Stearns** declined comment when asked about **Steve Cohen**'s pronouncement that his job is safe.

MELTING AWAY

Yanks wither again as late rally goes for naught and skid reaches seven

By GREG JOYCE

The ugly numbers

A look at some of the brutal stats from the Yankees' seven-game losing streak:

.137/.191/.230
Team slash line

10
Errors, leading to ...

17
Unearned runs allowed

17
Runs scored

3-for-48, 4 BB
Cody Bellinger and Ben Rice's combined slumps

31
Hits in 226 at-bats

5
Homers

11
Extra-base hits

4
Innings they have led at the end of an inning, out of 66, all coming Thursday against the Red Sox

Austin Wells

Charles Wenzelberg/NY Post

The Yankees are now in seventh hell.

The Bronx felt like it Wednesday afternoon, too, as an announced crowd of 37,117 sorry souls sat in suffocating 95-degree heat to watch the same lifeless offense for eight innings, then get some hope, only to still leave miserable by the end of the day.

After the Yankees came back to tie the game in the ninth, they wasted chances to win it in the ninth and 10th innings before Camilo Doval unraveled in the 11th, resulting in an even more excruciating seventh straight loss, 6-2 to the Tigers.

TIGERS	**6**	**11 innings**
YANKEES	**2**	**Box. / P. 40**

"F--king sucks," Cody Bellinger, who is 1-for-23 with two walks during the losing streak, said of going through a slump both individually and as a team. "It's a s---ty feeling. You want to contribute. When you're not succeeding, it's very frustrating. Just got to continue to work on it and grind it out."

On a day that began with Aaron Judge saying the Yankees had a "lack of focus" during this skid, Doval entered for the 11th and got two quick outs on a pair of ground balls. The Yankees then intentionally walked Riley Greene to bring up the right-handed-hitting Hao-Yu Lee. Greene stole second as Doval got ahead 0-2 on Lee, then proceeded to walk him and Spencer Torkelson to put the Tigers ahead 3-2.

Zach McKinstry came up next and roped a two-run single through the right side. Another run scored on the play when Ali Sánchez, after catching the throw home that was too late, sailed a throw to second base that went into center field, capping off a four-run rally.

The Yankees (48-38) then went in order in the bottom of the 11th against Keider Montero, drawing boos from whatever fans were still left after subjecting themselves to 2 hours and 59 minutes of torture.

Tied for their second-longest losing streak during Aaron Boone's tenure — trailing only a nine-game skid in August 2023 — the Yankees have suddenly gone from leading the AL East to falling five games back of the Rays in the loss column, entering Tampa Bay's Wednesday night game.

"It's been a terrible week for us," Boone said. "There's no way of sugarcoating it. We're capable of way more, obviously. Look, you're going to have stretches where it's tough, where you're missing some guys. But this was a really difficult week for us offensively, coupled with that not playing clean enough and taking care of the ball well enough. That's what you get, you get an awful week."

Aside from injuries to Judge, Giancarlo Stanton, Max Fried, Trent Grisham and Ryan McMahon, the Yankees on Wednesday were dealing with a case of food poisoning that forced Boone to rearrange the lineup and limited him somewhat late.

After the Yankees had come back to tie the game in the ninth on Amed Rosario's home run and Jazz Chisholm Jr. singling, stealing second and third and scoring on a wild pitch, they had a prime chance to win it in the 10th.

UP NEXT

vs. Twins

FRIDAY: 7:05 p.m., YES
SATURDAY: 1:35 p.m., YES
SUNDAY: 1:35 p.m., Peacock
WFAN (660 AM, 101.9 FM)

José Caballero led off with a sacrifice bunt to move the automatic runner to third before Oswaldo Cabrera — with Paul Goldschmidt on the bench — hit for himself and struck out. The Tigers then intentionally walked Ben Rice to bring up Sánchez (he had entered as a defensive replacement in the ninth after Spencer Jones pinch hit for Austin Wells), who struck out to end the threat.

Goldschmidt was available to pinch hit, but with Max Schuemann (the last man on the bench) unavailable due to illness, Boone said he did not want to risk having to play him at second or third base if the game had gotten to the 11th. The Yankees also could have forfeited the DH and had Rosario play third, but opted to stick with Cabrera.

All of it made for an even more brutal loss, similar to the extra-inning heartbreak they had on Sunday in Boston, when they came back from a 2-0 deficit in the ninth inning and went ahead 4-2 in the 10th before falling 5-4 to the Red Sox in their fourth straight loss.

On Wednesday, they were dominated by another starting pitcher — this time right-hander Troy Melton, who allowed just two hits and one walk across 6 1/3 shutout innings.

During the seven-game skid, opposing starters have now combined to pitch 46 innings against the Yankees, allowing just five runs (four earned) on 14 hits and seven walks while striking out 54.

"It sucks," Chisholm said. "Every loss sucks. Ain't no loss better than the next."

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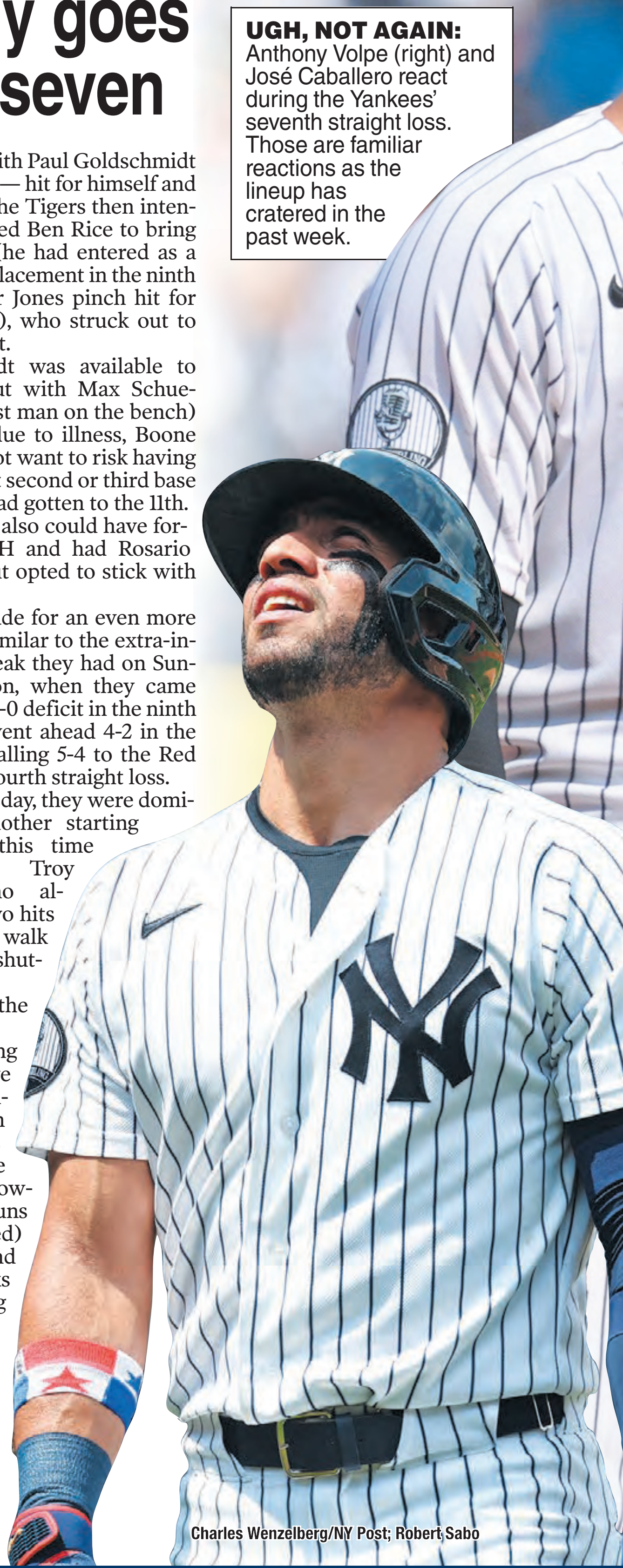
UGH, NOT AGAIN: Anthony Volpe (right) and José Caballero react during the Yankees' seventh straight loss. Those are familiar reactions as the lineup has cratered in the past week.

Charles Wenzelberg/NY Post; Robert Sabo

Montefiore Einstein *Official Hospital of the New York Yankees*

Bombers have lost way without their captain

MANAGER Aaron Boone said before the Yankees lost their seventh straight game that a "number of" Yankees were sick to their stomachs. And that doesn't even count or consider all the poor fans who witnessed the Yankees' worst seven-game stretch — or is it stench? — of offense and overall play, maybe in their mostly storied history.

Boone eventually estimated the clubhouse sick bay, believed to be caused by food poisoning, to be "seven or eight" deep, and that certainly didn't help this struggling squad. But no one looks especially healthy when they're hitting like this.

Boone referred to the last week as "terrible," then later downgraded it to "awful."

Fairly, it couldn't have been much worse.

Their 6-2, 11-inning defeat to the Tigers at the Stadium on Wednesday capped a franchise-worst level of offense and more. Ignominiously, they became the second team in 100 years to score only 17 runs while also allowing 17 unearned runs in a seven-game losing streak (1989 Tigers), according to stat master Katie Sharp.

Boone suggested maybe the day off Thursday could help them recharge or reset. Some might even recover. But unfortunately, there's still no timetable for all-world Aaron Judge, who is proving once again to be indispensable. The Yankees are 12-15 since he went on the shelf, the seventh straight season their record is a losing one sans Judge.

Captain Judge, miserable to be relegated to a bench for the foreseeable future due to his broken rib (more on that later), admitted he's detected "a little lack of focus" among the troops. No kidding.

"We've got to dial it in," implored Judge, who mentioned a thing or two to teammates as they've fallen behind a tiny-market Tampa Bay Rays team that by all rights shouldn't be able to compete with the $320 million Yankees, even the depleted Yankees.

Jon Heyman

Boone took a smidgen of solace in some late hits that helped the Yankees erase a 2-0 deficit after seeing much worse earlier in the week. Boone's team became the first in AL history to string five games with four hits or fewer and three walks earlier in the "terrible/awful" week. But that should be little consolation.

It's pretty weak all-around when two runs and seven hits over 11 innings is considered encouraging. And by the way, they scored no runs with the automatic-runner bonus over the final two extra innings.

"It sucks," said Jazz Chisholm Jr., who missed the previous game after suffering headaches following his collision with the Martian.

"We gotta be better," Chisholm added.

That goes for Boone, too. No strategy call is responsible for a week-long dry spell. But Boone missed the Yankees' best chance to end things by leaving his best active, healthy hitter, Paul Goldschmidt, on the bench.

A major opportunity arose with Spencer Jones at third, one out and the score 2-2 in the bottom of the 10th. It was a terrific chance to end things. But Boone left Oswaldo Cabrera in to hit, he of the .000 batting average, because he feared with his short bench — infielder Max Schuemann was among the ill — having to insert Goldschmidt at second base or third if he failed to win the game.

"I'm confident Cabrera can touch the ball, too," Boone said. Cabrera did not, sending the game with his whiff to the 11th, where the Tigers finished off the sweep, thanks to reliever Camilo Doval staging a game-losing walk-fest.

That E goes to Boone. But that certainly doesn't explain the whole no-good week, which combined a lack of hitting with sloppy play. One missing at-bat from Goldschmidt is a small second guess. The big issue remains Judge.

This team, solid or better whenever Judge plays, just seems to fall apart whenever he is shelved, and the bad news is there's still no timetable for Judge's return from his broken rib. He said he'd provide an update after he is reimaged but didn't provide a timetable for when that reimaging would occur.

The new pictures were originally projected to be shot four to six weeks from the time of diagnosis, and that still leaves two weeks to fulfill the initial prediction. But they still can't say when he will be reimaged, and the pictures will only provide a rough estimate of how much more rest and rehab is needed, anyway.

Judge's condition is basically everything since they obviously can't do a thing without him. The Yankees are 73-88 when he's not playing this decade. Not that everyone didn't already know it, but that just reaffirms he's the league's most valuable player.

Boone was called upon to provide an explanation why they fall to pieces without their captain, and he gave two plausible explanations, which I've paraphrased: 1. He's Aaron Judge, or if you prefer Aaron freakin' Judge. 2. They have other guys out, too. (My thought: Reason No. 2 might explain the issues this year but not the previous six years, in which they also struggled without Judge.)

Even without Judge, they shouldn't be this bad.

"We're capable of way more, obviously," Boone said.

We certainly hope so.

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Judge frustrated by mates' 'lack of focus'

By GREG JOYCE

Still weeks away from even getting more imaging of his rib, Aaron Judge has had plenty of time to watch the Yankees from the dugout over the past month.

In the past week in particular, which Judge kindly described as "not great," the captain was more pointed in his diagnosis of what has gone wrong during a losing streak that hit seven games on Wednesday afternoon.

"Just a little lack of focus," Judge said Wednesday morning before a 6-2 loss to the Tigers while speaking to reporters for the first time since the day he went on the injured list. "Just got to dial it in. Our ultimate goal is to win a World Series. I think guys just got to remember that every single day they show up here. We're here to win a World Series. That's your motivation every single day you step on that field, no matter what happens. No matter what happened the day before, I got a job to do.

AARON JUDGE

"We have an important sign when you walk out on that field, it's the last sign you see before you go out there. It says, 'Do your job.' Guys just got to do their job."

Aside from his responsibilities as captain, it remains a major question as to when Judge will be able to do his job again. The back-to-back AL MVP declined to share even how he was feeling, deferring until he gets more tests on his right rib, which still appears to be weeks away from happening — and that is just to potentially clear him to start ramping up.

"I'll give you a good update when we get some imaging and we'll go from there," Judge said. "There's no need to talk about this now. I know it's an important topic and a big issue, but I want to give you guys the full story, so why give you guys something now when we can get you everything here soon?"

The Yankees need him back badly, though their problems go beyond just his absence. They have scored just 17 runs on 31 hits while committing 10 errors that have led to a total of 17 unearned runs. By just about every facet of the game, the Yankees have been bad.

A few days before the brutal stretch began, there was also Jazz Chisholm Jr. sucking on a Blow Pop while playing second base for an inning in Detroit, and then getting thrown out of Sunday's game after arguing and spiking his helmet over a check-swing call he did not agree with.

Judge indicated he has addressed the lack of focus "with a couple guys, but we'll be talking here as a bigger group soon." He declined to get specific when asked about how he was seeing it play out.

"I think you guys see it," he said. "There's a couple things. But we don't need to get into that."

Montefiore Einstein Official Hospital of the New York Yankees

SAFETY MET

Cohen says Stearns will live out his five-year pact despite two awful seasons

EXCLUSIVE

By CHRISTIAN ARNOLD

Mets fans had better not have gotten their hopes up that David Stearns would be the next head to roll during the ballclub's miserable season.

Owner Steve Cohen confirmed that he was "going forward" with Stearns as Mets president of baseball operations during an appearance on "The Show" podcast hosted by The Post's Jon Heyman and Joel Sherman. The news came as the Mets entered Wednesday 14 games below .500 and weeks after the 2026 campaign cost Carlos Mendoza his job as manager.

"Listen, I'm going forward with David as our leader. There's no guarantees in anything. I'm going to evaluate this as we go along," Cohen told The Post. "David knows that it hasn't worked out the way he thought it would work out, the way I thought it would work out. He'd be the first one to admit that he's made some mistakes. This is a guy who's reflective. What am I looking for? I'm looking for someone — when things are going great, hey it's easy. When things aren't going great, are you reflective, are you adaptable, are you flexible? I believe David is. And I hear it. That encourages me."

Stearns took over the role as president of baseball operations in October 2023 and is nearly three years into his five-year contract with the Mets. Cohen made it clear that Stearns will get the full term of his deal to turn the Mets into a consistent contender.

The owner was also quick to note just how recently the Mets were a series away from the World Series with Stearns leading the baseball operations department.

"Does he get any credit for '24? Does that not count? We almost made it to the World Series," Cohen said. "That was just two years ago. It's a mixed record. I'm not gonna say it's going great, but it's too early to really make evaluations. And I feel really strongly that if we're going to burn and churn, that's a terrible place to be.

"Is someone going to put their career in your hands if you're going to be short-term oriented? I have a contract. It's a five-year contract, and we're going to live that contract out."

Cohen also added that if Stearns' contract comes up and he isn't happy with where the team stands, "at that point everything's fair game."

The Mets owner weighed in on a number of other topics, including:

- Addressing the decision to fire Mendoza, Cohen said that it ultimately came down to the question of whether he envisioned extending the Mets manager. The answer was apparently no, and Cohen described it as a "mercy shot, given where the club was."

"I don't know too many managers that are in that role forever, and that's just part of the gig, and sometimes you have to make a change," Cohen said.

- Cohen expressed concern about the state of the Mets' future during his conversation with Sherman and Heyman. He described his feelings as "extremely worried" and pointed out the "regression" of the team's farm system.

"Now I'm told that 'development isn't linear,' " Cohen said. "It isn't like some straight line where everything goes up. That doesn't mean that some of these players will over time improve where they are today. When you're looking at things objectively and you're saying, 'How are we going to get better?' "

The Mets owner also expressed an expectation that his front office will need to get creative going forward with the team's hands tied a bit by several big-money contracts that Bo Bichette, Luis Robert Jr. and Clay Holmes could opt into next season.

"Between signings where we couldn't get the players on the field and some lack of performance from some of our younger players, it set us back," he said.

- Cohen discussed the fan who had a "Fire Stearns" sign and was kicked out of a recent game, revealing that it was because of his behavior and not for his stance on the Mets executive. Cohen, who had also taken to social media about the topic over the weekend, said the fan was ejected because people were complaining and the person ignored requests from Citi Field staff to be respectful.

"Supposedly, the person was belligerent," Cohen said.

"If you get to the point where you won't sit down and you're ruining the experience of people behind you, that's unacceptable," he added.

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NOT GOING ANYWHERE: Steve Cohen said he's "going forward" with David Stearns (right), making it clear the team president will get the full term of his five-year contract to make the Mets a contender.

Amazin's owner says Soto-Lindor 'getting along much

By COLLIN WARD

In the midst of Mets madness, team owner Steve Cohen told The Post's Joel Sherman and Jon Heyman on "The Show" podcast Wednesday that reports of Juan Soto and Francisco Lindor not getting along last season were true but the issues have since been resolved.

"Frankly, I think that's a story that was last year's story," Cohen said in an exclusive interview. "I am told and believe strongly that these guys are getting along much better.

"And so, I just don't see that as an issue anymore."

The Post first reported that Soto and Lindor's relationship was chilly after the 2025 Mets crumbled in the final weeks during their first season as teammates.

It was originally denied by former Mets manager Carlos Mendoza, who thought the Mets "had a professional clubhouse" and everyone in the locker room "enjoyed being around each other."

He felt the media were just making excuses for why the Mets stopped playing well en route to their 83-79 finish.

Cohen's statement, however, provided a new perspective.

His acknowledgment comes at a tumultuous time for the Mets as players' futures are being analyzed in what could be a second straight season without playoff baseball.

The Mets owner said he doesn't see Lindor or Soto going anywhere, though.

Soto, after all, has 13 seasons left on his 15-year, $765

Like it or not, sticking with prez is right call

Joel Sherman

STEVE Cohen could fire David Stearns for cause.

As the Mets roster has become more that of Stearns, the results year over year are worsening — from getting into the playoffs on the final regular-season day in 2024, to missing out on the final day last season as the majors' most disappointing team, to not even being in contention en route to being the most disappointing club of 2026.

It is not a positive trend when your fans miss the good old days of a 2025 disaster because at least it kept them riveted for an entire schedule and not wondering when Jets camp opens.

During his appearance on the podcast "The Show with Joel Sherman and Jon Heyman," even Cohen conceded he was "extremely worried" about the near future because "we've had regression in our farm system."

There has been poor use of money and farm collateral, plus the firing last week of Carlos Mendoza, which was the first major move of the Stearns administration.

But Cohen is not dismissing Stearns. Not now. Not anytime soon. Cohen said of his head of baseball operations, "I have a contract. It's a five-year contract, and we're going to live that contract out."

That means through 2028. Now, keep in mind that at the beginning of last week — before their series against the Cubs began — the Mets had no intention to axe Mendoza. They were willing to let him run out the final year of his contract even in a standard-issue, unacceptable 76-86-ish season. But then the Mets were swept four games by the Cubs in humiliating style, none more so than a six-error fiasco in a doubleheader nightcap. And suddenly Cohen was meeting with Stearns to suggest (order?) that if Mendoza was not going to be extended, why have him twist in the misery of this day to day? Ultimately, it just felt like a moment that something seismic had to be done.

Cohen does not believe he is there with Stearns — and I think he is correct about that. A head of baseball operations almost always gets more latitude to exact his vision than a manager does to caretake it. The head of baseball ops generally receives a second shot at hiring a manager before the bull's-eye is totally on him. And there are extenuating circumstances that are motivating Cohen's loyalty right now:

1. Stearns has a track record in a way that Mendoza did not as a manager. Stearns helped turn the on-a-shoestring Brewers into perennial contenders.

2. That made him a well-regarded commodity, so much so that Cohen left the position open for two years so Stearns could free himself of his Brewers obligations. Is Cohen really going to jettison Stearns after two-plus years after waiting two years for him?

3. In the world of "anyone would be better," remember that in the years that Cohen waited, he imported three outsiders who ultimately would run baseball operations. Why don't you throw the names of Jared Porter, Zach Scott and Billy Eppler into a search engine if you have forgotten why their Mets tenures ended? In his brief time in charge, Scott traded Pete Crow-Armstrong to the Cubs for Javy Báez, and the last act of the Mendoza administration was to watch Crow-Armstrong assemble an MVP candidacy reel against the Mets.

4. Part of the reason Cohen had to wait two years for Stearns is that his early period as owner was filled with one best and brightest candidate after another rejecting overtures to even interview over concerns that Cohen really was the hair-trigger Wall Street tycoon Bobby Axelrod from "Billions."

And here is the thing: You might think Stearns is a terrible baseball executive, but that is not what the bulk of the industry believes. And if Cohen dismisses him now before an attempt at a vision is totally applied, he is likely to find that he again is reduced to the "B" pool of candidates to hire for this job. Cohen told "The Show" as much: "Every time you burn and churn, guess what? The next time nobody wants to come. Is someone going to put their career in your hands if you're going to be short-term oriented?"

5. And there is this possibility: He actually still believes in Stearns. He talks to Stearns daily, and Cohen called him "reflective" and "adaptable." Stearns can come across publicly android-y. But he grew up a Mets fan in New York and has a passion to construct Cohen's dream — which is serial contention.

Whenever Major League Baseball is played again after this season, it is going to have new rules, including perhaps a salary cap. And having someone without Stearns' intellect, experience and knowledge of this team trying to navigate that for a New York organization that might have to drastically reduce payroll is not where Cohen wants to go.

Yes, he is worried about what this team looks like in 2027. But his commitment to Stearns is through 2028. And — rightly, I believe — Cohen is going to provide more time to see if a talented executive can get his mojo back.

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better' now after clashing in 2025

million contract he signed in 2024, and Lindor has six years remaining on his 10-year, $341 million deal.

"I don't see them going anywhere," Cohen said.

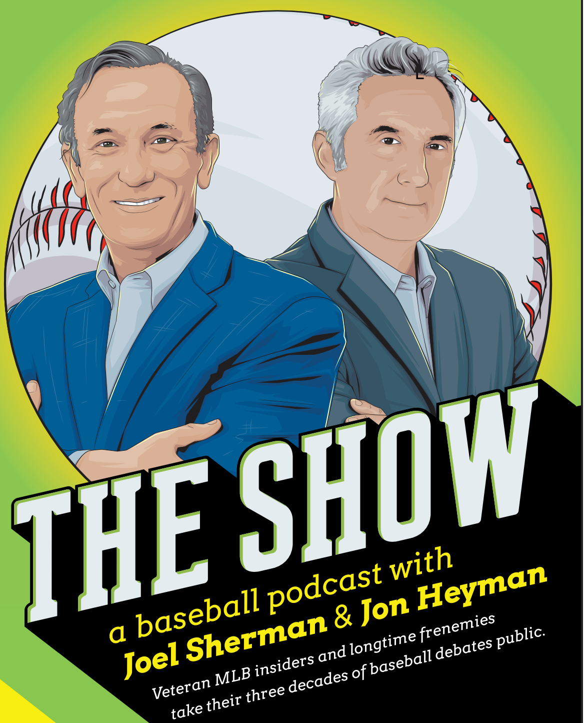
He added: "I'm lucky enough to have two high-quality players like that, and with the elimination of whatever issues there were last year, I'm thrilled that they're on the team."

The Mets may be sputtering to a 36-50 record, but their two most valuable players have played just 13 full games together.

This could also be the reason Cohen told The Post that president of baseball operations David Stearns will not be fired despite holding a losing record with a $320 million-plus roster.

The Mets, however, did make a change at manager, firing Mendoza and appointing Andy Green as interim skipper.

Green will have both Soto and Lindor at his disposal with the shortstop recently returning after missing two months with a calf strain suffered June 24.



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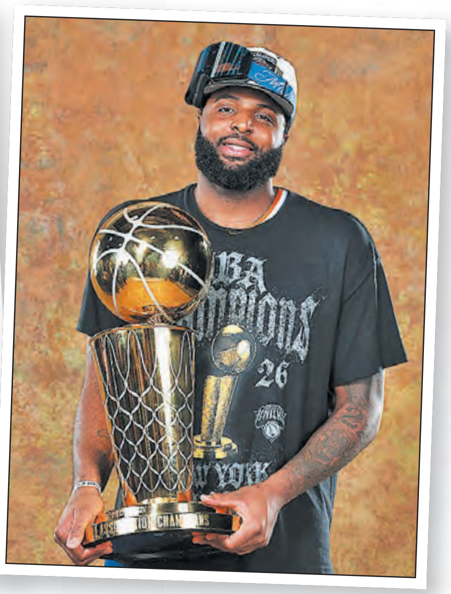


From country bumpkin to NBA champ, Mitch left his mark on Knicks nation

Stefan Bondy

MITCHELL Robinson looked like he never left the house. It was his introductory Knicks news conference, way back in 2018, and Robinson's blazer — worn with jeans — was too big. His answers were short, muted, uncertain. Scott Perry, the GM at the time, interjected to elaborate on the many things Robinson missed.

It was such a startlingly awkward introduction that team president Steve Mills walked into the media room to tell reporters, essentially, that Robinson isn't comfortable yet. He skipped college. He's from the rural South. He wasn't ready to speak publicly. He needs time, Mills pleaded.

As it turned out, Robinson got eight years with the Knicks. He outlasted Perry and Mills. He outlasted three coaches. He outlasted lottery picks Kristaps Porzingis, Kevin Knox and Frank Ntilikina. He participated in a 65-loss season and an NBA championship. He had the longest New York career of any Knicks draft pick since Charlie Ward.

And on Tuesday, Robinson's roller-coaster stint ended. He agreed to sign with the Celtics for three years, $47.4 million, a deal the Knicks were never going to match because of their desire to stay below the second apron. Robinson was a cost-cutting casualty or a victim of the CBA, depending on how James Dolan's reluctance to spend into the second apron is explained.

That was his ending in New York.

But Robinson was also — unquestionably — a shocking success story in New York, a tale of naivete, immaturity and injuries becoming rebounds, big money and an NBA championship.

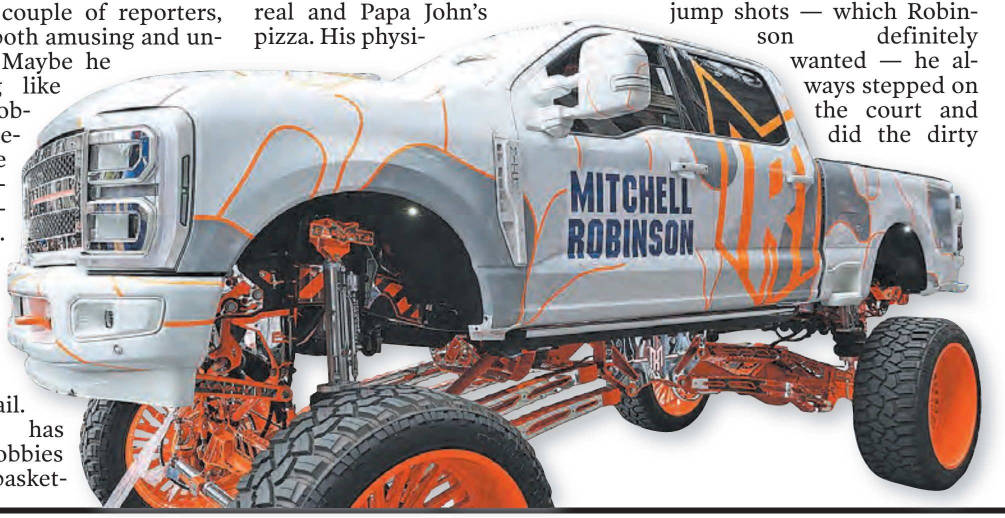
"I saw the recipe being made," the center said right after winning the title earlier this month.

The day Robinson won the title in San Antonio, he judged a bikini contest. He revealed that nugget in the locker room before the game to a couple of reporters, and it was both amusing and unsurprising. Maybe he was joking like the time Robinson declared he was launching an OnlyFans page. But probably he wasn't — like the time he auctioned off his toenail.

Robinson has many hobbies outside of basketball. While most other players prefer to keep their public persona as a "gym rat" (even though it's often exaggerated), Robinson isn't shy about his dearest interests — trucks, country music, animals, more trucks. Last season, when he noticed a teammate's Instagram feed was full of basketball posts, Robinson scoffed and declared his was just trucks.

His wandering interests fostered a reputation as an unfocused player, which was, in a lot of ways, fair. He left college — twice — because "school at that time wasn't really for me," Robinson said on the "Roommates Show," and "there ain't no way in hell I'm gonna get up at 6 a.m. for them to yell at me." He loved cereal and Papa John's pizza. His physical conditioning slipped a few times with the Knicks as injuries piled up, most concerningly a fractured ankle that sabotaged two seasons. He unloaded his problems — personal and professional — on social media. He accepted an invitation to the Team USA select squad in 2019 but showed up late to Vegas and left. He broke his hand at home before the NBA Finals, with the exact cause still a mystery. His free-throw shooting regressed from ugly to uglier. Robinson was, oftentimes, a 7-foot kid.

But he matured in the most important area of his career by buying into an unrewarding role. No matter how badly he wanted to dribble through his legs or hoist jump shots — which Robinson definitely wanted — he always stepped on the court and did the dirty work. Under Tom Thibodeau, Robinson abandoned playmaking for setting screens and crashing the glass. He stopped chasing rejections and learned about maintaining verticality on defense, which cured Robinson of his fouling problem.



In just his second year with the Knicks, Robinson projected as a potential star. He broke Wilt Chamberlain's NBA record for highest single-season field goal percentage. He was second in the league in blocks as a rookie. Recovering those opportunities may be the sell from Robinson's new team — Boston — which needs a starting center and is trying to dethrone New York in the East.

But it wasn't why Robinson lasted eight years with the Knicks — three more than any of his teammates, and the most since Allan Houston. Robinson stuck around because he triumphed as a rebounder and defender, because he developed into the best offensive rebounder in the NBA, because he could dominate a 2023 first-round series against the Cavaliers despite averaging just 5.6 shot attempts, because he grabbed an offensive rebound over Victor Wembanyama in Game 5 to secure the Larry O'Brien trophy.

Robinson arrived in New York as the shy and uncomfortable underdog, a skinny 7-footer whose mother was just 14 years old at his birth and whose father was never around.

He's leaving for Boston as a champion and Knick forever.

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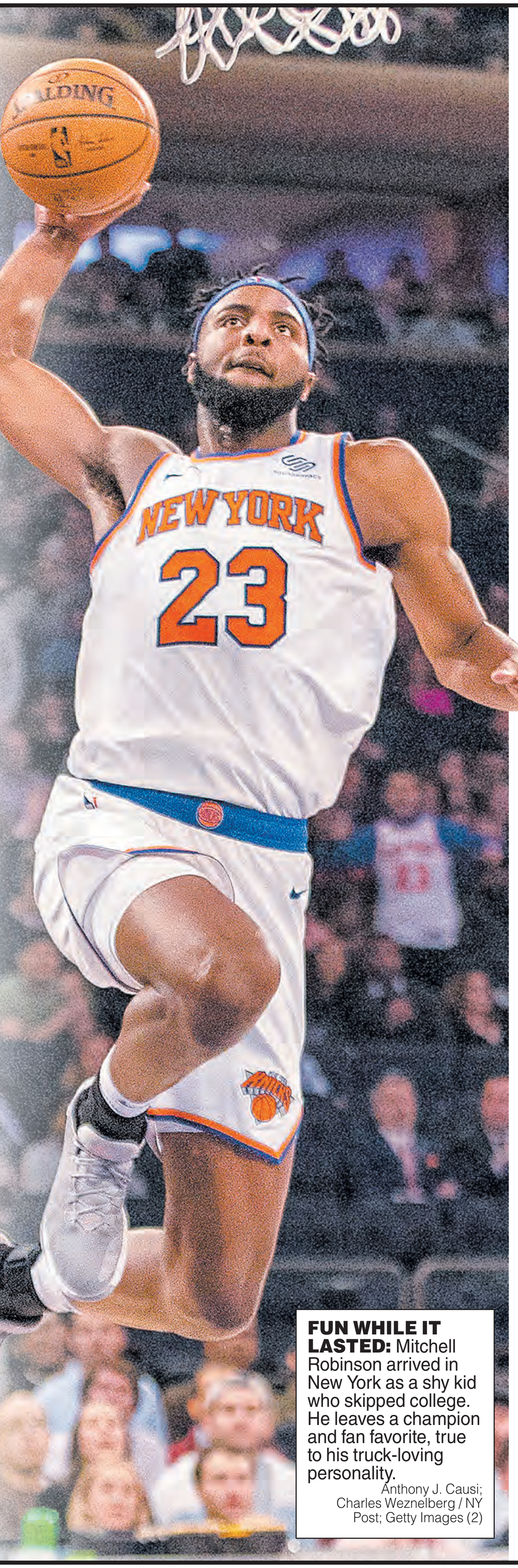

FUN WHILE IT LASTED: Mitchell Robinson arrived in New York as a shy kid who skipped college. He leaves a champion and fan favorite, true to his truck-loving personality.

Anthony J. Causi; Charles Weznelberg / NY Post; Getty Images (2)

Nets get a little Mo help at center spot

By BRIAN LEWIS

The Nets rounded out their center rotation Tuesday, agreeing to a two-year, $19 million deal with Moritz Wagner.

Trading away Nic Claxton had created a glaring hole and elevated the newly re-signed Day'Ron Sharpe to presumptive starter. Now the 29-year-old Wagner will back up — or perhaps platoon with — Sharpe.

The deal — first reported by HoopsHype and confirmed by The Post — is similar to the one agreed to with Keon Ellis the night before, and has a second-year mutual option. In essence, either side can opt in to the deal, trigger the second year and fully guarantee the remaining $9 million. But if both sides opt out, Wagner would become an unrestricted free agent again next summer.

Ellis' deal provided a defensive-minded guard. Wagner's pact now provides help on the other end of the floor, though no shot blocking. Rim protection was already an Achilles' heel for the Nets even with Claxton. Settling on a Sharpe-Wagner tandem makes them worse in that area.

But Nets GM Sean Marks likely looked at the centers available — in both free agency and on the trade market — and made cost-effective signings in Wagner and Sharpe (two years, $20 million), whose contract looks better in light of the inflated center market.

Ex-Knick Mitchell Robinson was likely the only shot-blocker available to them, but he inked with a contender in Boston while the Nets are rebuilding. Walker Kessler ($32.5 million annual salary), Robinson ($15.8 million), Jock Landale ($14 million) and Sandro Mamukelashvili ($13 million) all signed hefty deals. And Jalen Duren hasn't even gotten his lucrative contract yet, but will be well paid.

Instead, the Nets went with a cheaper floor-raiser. It does take them out of the running for a max salary slot, but leaves them with just under $25 million in cap space if they structure one of their signings into the room mid-level exception.

That projection doesn't include the Claxton-Julius Randle swap, which won't be official until Monday. The Nets could spend that amount, then trade Claxton. They would still have to include another small salary with Claxton to make the salary-matching math work. They're $917,000 short, per Yossi Gozlan of Third Apron.

Orlando's signing of Nikola Vucevic essentially ended Wagner's time with the Magic, and playing alongside his younger brother Franz.

The older Wagner brother averaged 6.9 points and 3.2 rebounds in just 11.9 minutes last season, logging 36 appearances after coming back from a torn ACL the prior year.

Wagner had averaged 11.1 points and 4.5 boards in 18.5 minutes over the prior three seasons combined for Orlando, on .560/.329/.802 shooting splits. While certainly not a pure stretch five, he spaces the floor better than Sharpe or Claxton. He brings energy and mobility, though not a hint of rim protection.

Moritz Wagner

Getty Images

Brooklyn will need to either find that at another position — and Randle is set to start at power forward — or compensate by pressuring the ball farther up the court. Neither Sharpe, Wagner nor second-year pro Danny Wolf is a shot-blocker, and the interior defense may suffer.

Brooklyn still has ample cap space and the most tradable future first-round picks in the league. One thing they could do with their cap room is give Michael Porter Jr. a raise for the upcoming season in a renegotiation and extension.

The Nets also have a glut of guards, with Ellis' skill set not only replacing the departed Ziaire Williams but perhaps making Terance Mann redundant. Could they make a trade to consolidate and add on the wing?

Houston's Tari Eason and Denver's Peyton Watson are restricted free agents, with the latter vacationing in France with Porter to celebrate his former Nuggets teammate's 28th birthday.

And if Orlando ever decides to break up their core with Paolo Banchero and the younger Wagner being a poor fit, having the German star's older sibling on the roster could be a boon for Brooklyn.

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Celts deal Brown to 76ers for George, picks

By COLLIN WARD

After lots of speculation, Jaylen Brown has been traded.

The Celtics dealt the five-time All-Star to the 76ers for Paul George, two first-round picks and two second-round picks, ESPN's Shams Charania reported Wednesday.

Brown is coming off his best season in the NBA, averaging 28.7 points, 6.9 rebounds and 5.1 assists over 71 games, delivering as Boston's top option while Jayson Tatum recovered from his Achilles tear for most of the season.

Despite the production this year, Brown has been rumored to be part of multiple trade packages so far this offseason, with Charania reporting the Celtics were actively shopping him around during the NBA draft.

One of those deals was offered during the Giannis Antetokounmpo sweepstakes, which concluded with the Greek Freak in Miami.

According to ESPN, the Celtics offered Brown and two unprotected first-round picks for Antetokounmpo.

"Jaylen Brown is a big part of us," Celtics president of basketball operations Brad Stevens said in late June. "I'm never going to predict the future. Every indication, everything I think about, over the last few years, has been building around those guys.

"You never know. But at the same time, the one thing I want to make very clear is how valued he's always been. He's been amazing. He's been an amazing teammate and a great person to be around."

JAYLEN BROWN

Shortly after Stevens left the door open for Brown's exit, Brian Robb of MassLive reported that the Timberwolves had been in talks with the Celtics about the guard before acquiring LaMelo Ball.

Brown was also shopped around by Boston in 2022, as the Celtics offered him in a package deal to the Nets for Kevin Durant. He now joins his second NBA team after 10 years with the Celtics. The 76ers finished seventh in the Eastern Conference this past season but rallied from a 3-1 deficit in the first round of the playoffs to beat the Celtics. Philadelphia was then swept by the Knicks in the East semifinals.

The Worldwide Leader reported that while the Celtics shopped Brown, the star never requested a trade out of Beantown.

Brown has three seasons left on his five-year, $285.4 million contract.

The Celtics got a nine-time All-Star in George, who has played in just 78 games the past two seasons combined, averaging 16.7 points and 5.3 rebounds.

Lakers add four after LeBron exit / P. 39

C YOU LATER

Robinson leaves Knicks for rivals

By JARED SCHWARTZ

The inevitable became reality.

The champions will not fully be running it back. And their rival got a little bit better.

Mitchell Robinson is not returning to the Knicks, as he intends to sign a three-year, $47.4 million deal with the Celtics in free agency. Previously the longest-tenured Knicks player, Robinson ends his eight-year run with the team, which culminated in a title.

Though his departure was hardly a surprise, what was not a given was his destination. A lifelong Knick now joins their longtime enemy, who are likely to continue to be one of their top threats in the Eastern Conference.

A 2018 second-round pick, Robinson, now 28, developed from a raw shot-blocker into a key bench piece and one of the best rebounders in the NBA.

Despite his importance, it became clear that the Knicks would not be able to make a respectable offer while maintaining owner James Dolan's stated goal of staying under the second apron.

The Knicks already secured two of their top three free agents in Jose Alvarado and Landry Shamet to multiyear deals, along with Mohamed Diawara. Those moves left the Knicks roughly $9 million under the second apron and still needing to sign three players heading into Tuesday's start of free agency.

Teams were officially allowed to begin negotiating with all other free agents Tuesday (they could negotiate with their own free agents immediately after the Finals), though no deals can be made official until July 6.

That trio of moves meant the Knicks could really only fill out the roster with minimum deals, way below what Robinson commanded on the open market.

Really, once Dolan expressed his desire to stay under the second apron, bringing back Robinson would likely be impossible. The Post's Stefan Bondy reported last week that it was unlikely he'd be back.

His absence means the Knicks now need a backup center behind Karl-Anthony Towns. And it won't be Ariel Hukporti, who plans to sign a one-year, $3.4 million deal with another rival in the 76ers. That salary is about $1 million more than the minimum.

Robinson's departure means Miles McBride — who arrived in the 2021-22 season — is now the longest-tenured Knick.

Robinson's final contribution was securing one of the biggest rebounds in franchise history — corralling Josh Hart's missed free throw with 26.1 seconds left and the Knicks up by three points in Game 5 of the Finals. The play denied the Spurs a chance to tie the game, all but sealing the win and the championship.

He is coming off his healthiest season since 2021-22, as the Knicks' load management plan helped him play 60 games in the regular season. But he was less effective in the postseason, often being played off the court due to opponents' Hack-a-Mitch strategy that exploited his putrid free-throw shooting (29.3 percent in the playoffs). Interestingly, Celtics coach Joe Mazzulla was among the most aggressive in utilizing Hack-a-Mitch. Now, the two will be working together.

Robinson also broke his hand in an off-court incident between the conference finals and Finals, adding to some of the potential question marks.

Even with all that, Robinson emerged as a fan favorite with his quirky personality, love of country music and monster trucks, and viral moments with the media.

The championship team that those fans fell in love with will now look, and feel, a little bit different.

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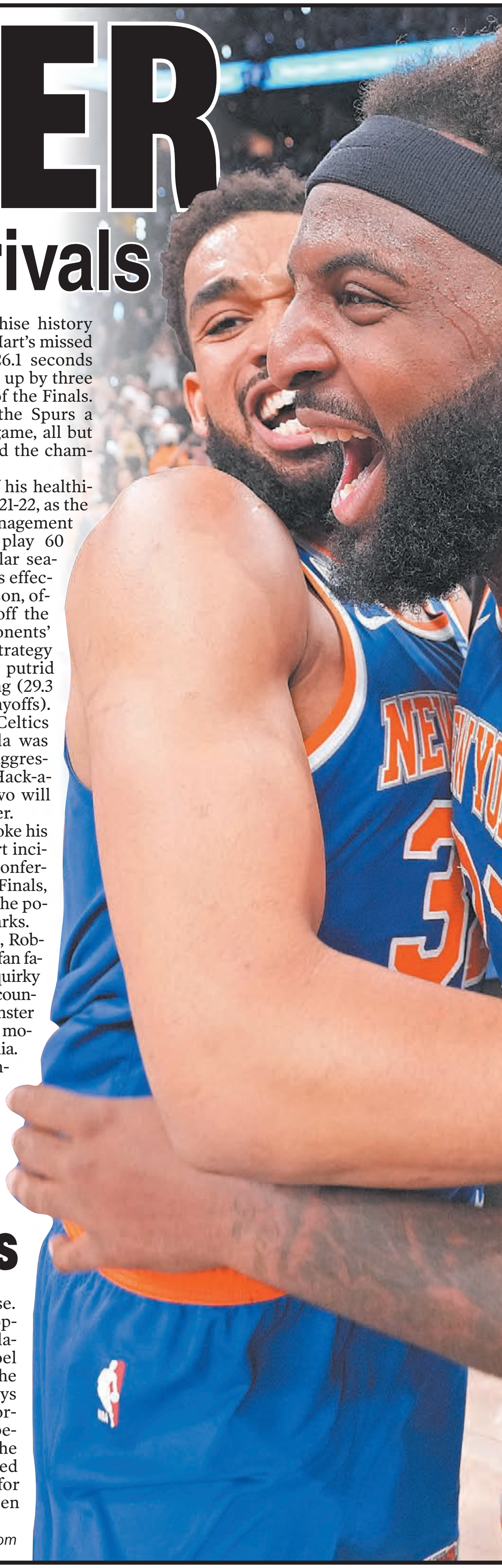

Backup C Hukporti to sign with Sixers

By STEFAN BONDY

Not long before Mitchell Robinson agreed to sign with the Celtics on Wednesday morning, Ariel Hukporti accepted a one-year, $3.4 million deal with the 76ers, sources confirmed, which is roughly $1 million over the minimum.

Hukporti's departure doesn't move the needle much for the Knicks — he was sparsely used last season — but reiterates New York's need for frontcourt additions.

As of Wednesday evening, Karl-Anthony Towns was the lone natural center or power forward on the Knicks roster. After agreeing to re-sign Landry Shamet on the opening day of free agency, the Knicks were left with roughly $9 million to sign three players while staying under the second apron.

Hukporti, who shares an agent with Robinson, was a potential option to re-sign with the Knicks and fill minutes at backup center. New York, after all, had built equity into Hukporti's development. The German was drafted 58th overall in 2024 and logged two seasons with the Knicks, averaging 2.1 points in 79 overall appearances. His strengths are rebounding and shot blocking, but he showed his inexperience at times last season while getting lost on defense.

His further development will be in Philadelphia, where Joel Embiid is still the starter but always leaves plenty of opportunities for backups because of injuries. The Sixers also agreed Wednesday to trade for Boston superstar Jaylen Brown.

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Have faith in Rose to rebound from Mitch loss

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDS: Mitchell Robinson, the longest-tenured Knick who finally got to celebrate a championship this past season, is headed to Boston. The free agent's specialty is offensive rebounds — including a title-sealing board in Game 5 of the Finals against the Spurs (inset). Getty Images (2)

Mike Vaccaro

WE CAN make this about the second apron, if that's where you want to take it. We can puzzle about all the money James Dolan once sank into lost causes across so many lost seasons, and his stated unwillingness now to spend every dime necessary to bring the band back full, with confetti still stuck in their pockets.

We can talk about all the reasons beyond second-apron concerns that might offer you pause about paying Mitchell Robinson $47 million over three years — which is what the Celtics agreed to do Wednesday, luring him away from the Knicks after eight years.

He spent the whole of his time here seemingly on the precipice of physical calamity, until the Knicks finally committed to load-manage him to the hilt in order to keep him healthy … and *still* he showed up to the Finals with his hand wrapped and guarded thanks to a still-unexplained mishap on the eve of the biggest Knicks series in 27 years.

And those free throws … well, we can talk about how whatever charms were attached to his always-trying-mostly-failing struggle with free throws finally got awfully old when teams started following the Celtics' lead — irony of ironies — and started resorting to Hack-a-Mitch. That was a perfectly sensible strategy that always ground Knicks momentum to dust until he could be airlifted out of games.

All of that is true. All of that is fair.

So is this:

The Knicks are a lesser team now than they were yesterday, a lesser team than the one that blitzed through the playoffs — with Robinson a valuable piece of the formula — and danced up and down the Canyon of Heroes (Mitch taking that ride in one of his signature monster trucks, of course).

That doesn't have to be forever. There are able replacements available now, and the one important perk of staying under the second apron is that there'll be ample time to figure this out on the fly. The Knicks wouldn't have won this title without Robinson, who was a Knick for 2,936 days — longer than anyone else on the roster. They also wouldn't have won it without Jose Alvarado, who's been a Knick for 147 days and arrived at the trade deadline. It will be a fluid situation replacing Robinson between now and next April.

But he must be replaced.

And this is where Knicks fans can take a modicum of comfort in the mantra we've been espousing around here for a few years now:

In Leon, We Trust.

Leon Rose put this team together, and he did it with his own vision, aided by his wingman, William Wesley, and his salary cap savant, Brock Aller, and for that he must be granted the full benefit of the doubt. He may not have agreed with Dolan's stolidness regarding the apron, but he knew the parameters even before Dolan spilled the beans to everyone else the day before the parade.

He certainly knew them as he wheeled and dealed on draft day, as he made three key retentions in Landry Shamet, Alvarado and Mohamed Diawara, and as he faced the inevitability that there probably wasn't going to be a chair left for Mitch when the music stopped playing. It also was naive to think Robinson should pass up the bag he was inevitably going to be offered. He did what he had to do Wednesday.

And now Rose must, too.

Does it sting a little extra that it's the Celtics? Sure it does. There's a lot of history there, and it always feels that a little bad blood can boil at any time. It makes one of the Knicks' key rivals better on paper than they were before, and that hurts. And Brad Stevens sits on the same top shelf of NBA operators that Rose does, a small huddle that also includes Sam Presti in Oklahoma City and Tim Connelly in Minnesota and Ole Man Riles in Miami.

If Stevens is unfazed by Robinson's baggage, then you have to believe in *his* track record, too. Clearly he is unbothered by the injury history, by the free throws, by the occasional petulance that he didn't see the ball enough (good luck with *that* getting better if Jayson Tatum, Paul George and Derrick White all click), by his chronic poor judgment getting into unnecessary on-court scuffles.

Clearly what matters to him is Robinson's elite rebounding, his rim protection, his willingness to work on the defensive end. And look, for all of Robinson's imperfections — and despite the fact that he was badly outplayed by Victor Wembanyama most of the minutes he was paired with him — the truth is this: When the Knicks needed one play to clinch Game 5, and to make their first title in 53 years official, Stevens remembers who made that play.

So will Knicks fans, forever.

It was Robinson, securing the last of the 1,676 offensive rebounds he'd ever grab as a Knick, in traffic (of course), off a missed Josh Hart free throw. Knicks fans will never forget that, and so, when Mitch returns to the Garden wearing green, a most unusual thing will occur: a standing O for a Celtic. And it won't be a short one.

By then, we'll know where Rose intends to go to replace him. At least for the time being.

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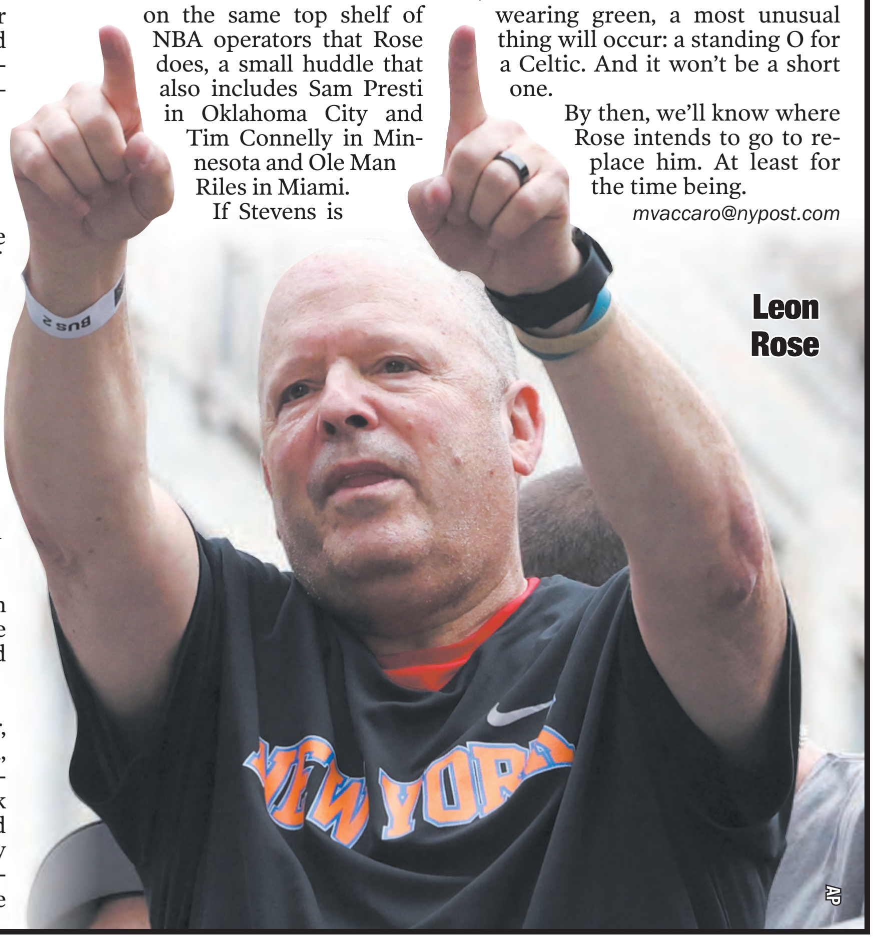

Leon Rose

AP

BETTER RED THAN DEAD

Down to 10 men, U.S. survives to beat Bosnia for 1st knockout win since '02

By ETHAN SEARS

UNITED STATES	**2**	**Round of 32**
BOSNIA-HERZ.	**0**	

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Mauricio Pochettino wants his team to touch the moon, and they are getting ever closer to the stars.

Twenty-four years after USA 2, Mexico 0 in Jeonju came USA 2, Bosnia-Herzegovina 0 on a sun-splashed Wednesday in Santa Clara. Of course it had to be [ital] dos a cero [end ital] again. The U.S. waited a generation and the long-lasting 36 minutes that followed Folarin Balogun's red card between knockout round victories at a World Cup. Every second was worth it.

"Game by game, we've started to prove people wrong," Chris Richards said, "and prove ourselves right."

The losing streak against UEFA is over, with wins against Bosnia sandwiching a nearly five-year drought. So too is the knockout stage losing streak and so too, just maybe, is the inferiority complex that's plagued American soccer when it comes up against so-called soccer nations. The true test of that will come next week in Seattle when the USMNT faces Belgium, which knocked them out in Brazil 12 years ago and which beat them 5-2 in a friendly back in March.

Balogun being sent off 61 minutes in for landing on Tarik Muhamerovic's ankle — a call decided after a lengthy VAR review — changed the tenor of a Round of 32 match the USMNT had been, if not dominating, then certainly in control of.

The Bosnians, though, failed completely to take advantage. Instead of attacking the way they should have, they failed to break down a 10-man USMNT defense, and the game devolved into something overly physical.

Without the red card, that might have favored Bosnia. With it, Stjepan Radeljic's challenge on Sergiño Dest just outside the box handed the Americans the opportunity they needed to put the match away.

Malik Tillman, who had assisted Balogun's opening goal, who had been so silky all evening, did not let it go to waste. Earlier in the match, he had to change his cleat after getting stepped on. With the new boot, he dipped a gorgeous free kick over the wall and into the corner for a 2-0 lead that, 82 minutes into the match, gave the U.S. what it so desperately needed.

"I know some guys doubted me that I could go over the wall," Tillman said afterward, his sock a Curt Schilling-esque shade of red around his right big toe. "But I practiced this in training and I'm happy it went in."

Given how leads have so easily fallen to bits in the knockout stage of this World Cup, the relative lack of drama here came as a shock. Give immense credit to Tim Ream, Chris Richards and a U.S. back line that — so frequently questioned coming into this tournament — stood tall at the moment they were needed most. Richards, so good in the air, seemed to win every duel in the second half. Matt Freese, rarely tested before Wednesday, proved himself in total command.

"The whole focus is 11 guys — 10 sometimes — making sure that we don't concede," Ream said. "And if we do our jobs, on both sides of the ball, everybody — and I mean everybody — we give ourselves an incredible opportunity to continue to move on."

Tillman, though, ought to be the man of the match. He has been an unsung hero the entire World Cup, and has now helped pilot the U.S. into the Round of 16, already a better tournament result than Germany, his birth country, which he spurned to play here.

The first 64 minutes cut a much different tone than the last 26.

This USMNT — Pochettino's USMNT — does not sit on its hands and wait for the game to come to it. The Americans probe and search and then they smash and grab. Balogun, the breakout star of this World Cup, had one goal called back for offside and two penalty appeals denied before there was nothing left in his way, the striker sweeping in Tillman's pass with his left foot after 44 minutes.

Those appeals, it turned out, were only the start of Balogun's problems with Brazilian referee Raphael Claus. The U.S. will be without its star striker against Belgium too as a result. That, however, is a problem for tomorrow.

"We want to change the sport in America," Weston McKennie said. "And I feel like we've been doing that, and we have a chance to make it even bigger."

Pochettino's exhortation to his team, released in a video by U.S. Soccer on Wednesday morning, was to go where only Americans have ever gone.

"The objective is to touch the moon," Pochettino said. "I want to touch the moon."

The journey will be much harder without Balogun on the ship. But right now, the sky looks to be no limit at all.

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More World Cup / P. 46-47

This team gives fans reason to finally believe

Mark Cannizzaro

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Damned if they don't keep checking off boxes and breaking down doors.

The door the U.S. men's national team busted down Wednesday night in a nervy 2-0 Round of 32 win over Bosnia-Herzegovina in the World Cup was the heaviest door it's encountered in years — maybe the heaviest ever.

Despite the cool exterior the U.S. players exuded in the days before kickoff — "Would it be weird if I told you I don't really feel too much pressure right now?" veteran defender Tim Ream had said — there was tension entering the night for the USMNT.

The U.S., historically the plucky underdog in these knockout matches (see: the Netherlands in '22, Belgium in '14, Brazil in '94), was the decided betting favorite to beat Bosnia-Herzegovina and win a knockout round match for the first time since 2022.

But past USMNT history in World Cup knockout rounds — no win in 24 years and 0-4 in that span — warned you not to get too invested in this team until further notice.

Well, "further notice" arrived Wednesday night. It arrived with conviction, confidence and with feeling.

It arrived via the left foot of U.S. striker Folarin Balogun in the 45th minute.

It arrived via the right foot of Malik Tillman on a free kick of utter perfection in the 82nd minute.

Notice arrived with the Americans playing 10 men for the final 30 minutes plus 10 more in added time with Balogun having been sent off in controversy with a highly questionable red card in the 61st minute.

And now the U.S. is on to the Round of 16 for a match against Belgium, which defeated Senegal in extra time Wednesday, set for Monday in Seattle with a second-ever berth to a quarterfinal in the balance.

Dream on, U.S. soccer supporters.

Dream big, America.

Keep checking off the boxes and breaking down doors, USMNT.

Because if you hadn't already done it with the 4-1 win over Paraguay in the Group D opener and the 2-0 win over Australia to win a World Cup group for the first time in U.S. soccer history, you've done it now.

"I think this game today showed our character [that] we will always keep on fighting, keep on living," Tillman said.

"Coming into the tournament, there were a lot of question marks about our whole team in general, and I think game by game we started to prove people wrong and ourselves right," defender Chris Richards said. "I think we knew we had it the whole time. It was just a matter of showing itself. Glad it's coming out at this time. Hopefully, we can make some more history next round."

The U.S. did this with an epic first half from Balogun, who gave the Americans a 1-0 lead with a left-footed nutmeg of Bosnian goalie Nikola Vasilj in the 45th minute.

The Bosnia defenders simply couldn't handle Balogun, twice getting away with questionable takedowns in the box and once getting lucky that a Balogun goal was nullified by offsides, with his left leg barely over the line.

Despite Bosnia being doggedly determined with its 5–3-2 defensive shape not to let the skilled U.S. offensive players break through, Balogun was a menace with four of the five shots from the U.S. in the first half.

Moments after Balogun was tripped up in the box by Amar Dedic and got no call from the referee, who acted like he'd left his yellow card back at the hotel, it looked like Balogun made it 1-0 in the 31st minute but he was whistled offside.

Six minutes later, Balogun was again taken down by Tarik Muharemovic and again got no call. Five minutes after that, it was Muharemovic again taking Balogun down and no call.

Frustrated, Balogun remained relentless and he was finally rewarded in the 45th minute after a brilliant sequence of passing.

The first-goal magic began with a Ream clear out of the defensive zone to Tyler Adams, who sent a creative flick to Tillman, who one-timed it toward Balogun. And Balogun put the shot between the keeper's legs for the 1-0 lead and an eruption from the electric sellout crowd.

The dynamic striker's memorable night, though, came to a controversial end in the 61st minute when he received a red card for inadvertently stepping on Muharemovic's right ankle trying to win a ball.

This left the U.S. to desperately defend to the end with 10 men ... and knowing their most dangerous offensive weapon would be suspended for the next match.

Tillman saved the day with his brilliant free kick that he creatively curled over the Bosnia wall and past a diving Vasilj, who could only get a fingertip on the ball.

This was a massively pivotal match for all of U.S. soccer. And the USMNT, needing not to answer for the previous years of disappointment, delivered all the answers on this night.

If, after Wednesday night, we cannot trust this group, trust their manager, Mauricio Pochettino, and shed the baggage of doubts that have lingered for too many years from too many past disappointments, then when can we?

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Red card sidelines dangerous Balogun

YOU THE 'MAN! Malik Tillman celebrates his free-kick goal that put the United States up 2-0 and out of reach for Bosnia-Herzegovina after Folarin Balogun (inset) was shown a red card in the 64th minute, forcing the U.S. to finish off its first knockout-round victory since 2002 with just 10 men.

Getty Images (2); EPA

By MICHAEL DUARTE

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — For more than an hour Wednesday night at Levi's Stadium, Folarin Balogun was putting on the kind of performance that changes how a nation views a striker.

Every dangerous American attack seemed to begin or end with him.

He thought he had opened the scoring early, only to glance over and see the assistant referee's flag raised for offside. Minutes later, he believed he had earned a penalty after being clipped inside the box, but play continued. None of it rattled him.

Balogun simply kept coming.

His breakthrough finally arrived just before halftime when he buried the opening goal against Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Balogun nearly added another after the break, only to watch a thunderous strike rattle the crossbar. Every touch carried purpose. Every run stretched Bosnia's back line. On a night when knockout matches demanded stars, USA's striker shined the brightest.

Then everything unraveled.

In the 61st minute, Balogun was shown a straight red card after VAR review determined he had stepped on Bosnia-Herzegovina defender Tarik Muharemovic during a challenge.

"For me, it was never a red card," USMNT coach Mauricio Pochettino said. "There was never any intention. That was a normal action in football. It happened by accident."

Live, the play looked more awkward than malicious, the type of collision that happens dozens of times over the course of a match. Slow motion told a different story, and the referee upgraded the decision to serious foul play with no option to appeal, making Balogun the first player to score a goal and receive a red card in a World Cup elimination game since France's Zinedine Zidane in the final against Italy in 2006.

Instead of riding the shoulders of their most dangerous attacker, the Americans were forced to survive the final half hour with 10 men while Bosnia threw numbers forward searching for an equalizer.

The United States ultimately escaped with a 2-0 victory, but the cost may not be known until the Round of 16.

Balogun's suspension means Pochettino will be without his leading striker against Belgium in Seattle.

"When one man goes down, the next man steps up," said defender Chris Richards. "We're more than just one player or more than just 11 players. We're going to miss him, but we've got his back."

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Netflix

STREAM IT OR SKIP IT

Like most K-dramas, the first episode of **"Agent Kim Reactivated"** (Netflix) is a slow build. But in the time it takes to set up the characters and plot, it gives us a real insight into why the former Agent Kim is now the mild-mannered Manager Kim. **OUR CALL: STREAM IT**

WHAT TO WATCH

From the creators of **"The Secret Lives of Mormon Wives"** comes **"Million Dollar Nannies,"** a Hulu reality show that follows a group of elite nannies as they travel to Ibiza to start their own agency for high-profile clients. The series manages to be a binge-worthy masterpiece for anyone craving juicy, dramatic reality television.

For more on your favorite TV and films, visit decider.c

DECIDER

WHAT TO WATCH. WHEREVER YOU WATCH

Natalie Alyn Lind and Finn Little tease what's in store in the 'Dutton Ranch' Season 1 finale

EVERYTHING WILL CHANGE

Finn Little and Natalie Alyn Lind (left) star on "Dutton Ranch." The Season 1 finale streams on Paramount+ on Friday, July 3.

Emerson Miller/Paramount+

By KAREN KEMMERLE

WHAT will become of **"Dutton Ranch"** fans' favorite young lovers? Though their connection has been passionate and unruly from the start, Carter (Finn Little) thought he found "the one" in the fiery Oreana Jackson (Natalie Alyn Lind). However, after their disastrous exchange at the 10-Petal anniversary party, their future together is in question. When asked what they thought of their characters' first fight, the two actors had very different reactions. "I was so upset," recalled Alyn Lind. "I was like, 'I hate my character right now.'" Little, however, was delighted that Carter got to get drunk and make a scene. "I loved it," said Little with a laugh. "He got a bit lippy and found out something he didn't want to find out."

Shockingly, the Jackson family matriarch Beulah (Annette Bening) suffers a heart attack at the end of the evening. "It's a big moment for the Jacksons," said Lind. "Up until then, you have only seen them at each other's throats." Oreana is forced to grow up fast with her grandmother in the hospital. Lind observes: "Any time there's a risk of losing somebody, your priorities change." But she also notes that Carter is still "in the back of Oreana's mind." "She's got a crush."

While Oreana is in the hospital, Carter is dealing with a nasty hangover and confronting the questions of what he wants to do with the rest of his life.

"Deep down, Carter wants to be like Rip. He wants to be like John Dutton," said Little. "He just needs to figure out the path that will take him where he wants to go." While these existential questions put Carter temporarily (hopefully!) at odds with Beth (Kelly Reilly) and Rip (Cole Hauser), Little points out that the real target of Carter's rage is himself.

"He doesn't know where to put all of that anger," said Little. "That's part of the reason that he's acting out."

DECIDER: Natalie, is there any part of Oreana that's still attracted to her rich ex, Harrison? Was it her intention to snub Carter?

NATALIE ALYN LIND: I don't think so. She's attracted to the idea of proving something to Beulah, but it doesn't have anything to do with Harrison. She's just seeing what she can get from him. Oreana has this really big portion of her heart that Carter fits into, but she's scared of that love she has for him. Maybe a part of her wanted to push Carter away to see if he would come back.

Finn, why do you think Carter was so quick to think the worst of Oreana? Is it just the pains of first love?

FINN LITTLE: Yeah, the pains of first love or the whiskey [laughs]. The whiskey was probably hitting them both pretty good. He got a bit lippy and found out something he didn't want to find out. So, that's on him.

Finn, I would be remiss if I didn't ask you about your big scene with Cole Hauser in the barn during last week's episode. I gasped when Carter clenched his fists at Rip. Why do you think he's angrier with Rip than Beth?

FL: I think Carter's just angry with himself. He doesn't know where to put all of that anger. That's part of the reason why he's acting out. I loved doing those scenes with Cole. We talked a little bit about how to approach that confrontation. Carter doesn't really know where his head's at in that moment.

This week is the big season finale. What can you tease for your characters?

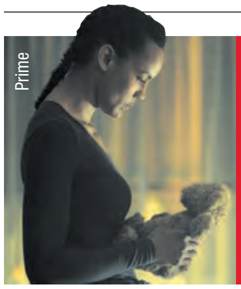
NAL: Episode 9 changes everything.

FL: It really does.

NAL: Oreana becomes a different person in Episode 9. She doesn't know what her next step will be. I'm just going to leave it at that before I get into trouble [laughs].

Finn, what about Carter? Is he a little closer to finding himself by the end of the season?

FL: That's a struggle that will be ongoing. However, I'm hopeful that in time he'll be able to come to terms with who he is and not punish himself too much.



Prime

TRENDING NOW

Can't get enough of **"Reacher"**? Fortunately, Prime Video has another series up its sleeve. Not only did the streamer announce that "Reacher" Season 4 premieres on Aug. 12, but also that the new spinoff series **"Neagley,"** starring **Maria Sten** (left) as Frances Neagley, debuts on Sept. 16.

WHAT'S NEW

ON NETFLIX
"Survival of the Thickest," the third and final season (left).

ON THE ROKU CHANNEL
"Gamechangers: America's Top 25 Female Athletes," a documentary special.

Best Bets

What's on Tonight

ADVENTURE

Men in Black: 4 p.m. on SYFY. Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones. James and Agent K, must recover an item that has been stolen by an intergalactic villain.

SPORT

2026 FIFA World Cup: 6:45 p.m. on WNYW 5. Croatia at Portugal from Toronto. Croatia went 2W-0D-1L to finish second. Portugal 1W-2D-0L behind Ronaldo.

DRAMA

Django Unchained: 7:15 p.m. on PARSHO. Jamie Foxx, Christoph Waltz. With the help of a bounty-hunter, a freed slave sets out to rescue his wife.

Thursday July 2, 2026

SP = Spectrum, C = Cablevision, F = FiOS Movies 🟥 Sports 🟩 New 🟨

Evening	SP	C	F	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm
2 WCBS	2	2	2	CBS Evening News	Inside Edition	Entertainment Tonight	First Marriage (R)	Ghosts: Water Heater	Matlock: Mousetrap (R)		Elsbeth: Ick, A Bod (R)		CBS News 11pm	(11:35) Comics (R)
4 WNBC	4	4	4	NBC Nightly News	News 4 New York at 7	Access Hollywood	Surviving Earth: When the Seas Died		The Americas: The Americas: A Wild 250th		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit: Hubris (R)		News 4 New York at 11	(11:35) Tonight Show
5 WNYW	5	5	5	(6:45) 2026 FIFA World Cup: Round of 32: Croatia at Portugal from Toronto Stadium. Live.					FIFA World Cup Today Live.		The 10 O'Clock News		Good Night New York	Feud Favorites (R)
7 WABC	7	7	7	ABC World News	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune (R)	Independence Day (1983, Drama): A photographer's desire to leave her stifling hometown is hindered by love. Kathleen Quinlan. R ★★						News	(11:35) Kimmel Live
9 WWOR	9	9	9	(6:00) 6 O'Clock News	Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	The News on My 9		Dateline: The Note (R)		Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	Dateline: The Shadow in the Window (R)	
11 WPIX	11	11	11	(6:00) PIX11 News at 6	Celebrate 250 - Main Street USA		Trivial Pursuit: The T.P. Open (R)		Trivial Pursuit: Bend and Snap (R)		PIX11 News at Ten		New York Nightcap	Seinfeld: The Money
13 WNET	13	13	13	BBC News America	The PBS News Hour		The Statue of Liberty (1985, Documentary) Jeremy Irons. NR ★★★			My Music Presents: This Land is Your Land			Amanpour and Company	
21 WLIW	21	21	21	(6:00) News	NOVA: Athens: Birth (R)		NOVA: Revolutionary (R)		The Kimberley:		Reel South: Boil That		BBC News	The Day
25 WNYE	25	22	25	Laura	Great Conversations		Food.	Potluck	Roots	Feet	Hospitality and Politics		My World	LBJ Library
31 WPXN	31	3	531	(6:00) FBI	FBI: Manhunt		FBI: Unearth		FBI: Hitched		FBI: Acolyte		FBI: Covered	
41 WXTV	41	6	41	N Univisi	La rosa de Guadalupe		Tan Cerca de Ti, Nace el		Guardián de mi Vida		Hermanas Un Amo		Noticias	N Univisio
47 WNJU	47	16	12	Copa Mundial de FIFA 2026: Croatia vs Portugal. Directo.					Mundial	Mundial	Mundial	Copa Mundial de FIFA 2026 Directo.		
55 WLNY	55	10	10	Perfect (R)	Last Man	Last Man	News 8pm		48 Hours		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Neighbor.	Neighbor.
A&E	46	46	181	First 48 (R)	The First 48: Chat Trap		After the First 48		Interrogation Raw		(10:01) Investigations		The First 48: Dead Stop	
AMC	54	43	231	The Day After Tomorrow (2004, Drama) Dennis Quaid. PG-13 ★★½					TNA iMPACT!				The Day After Tomorrow	
BBCAM	71	101	189	The Fifth Element (1997, Science Fiction) Bruce Willis. PG-13 ★★★½						Predator (1987, Science Fiction) Arnold Schwarzenegger. R ★★★				
BET	37	54	270	(6:00) Drumline (2002, Drama) Nick Cannon, Zoe Saldana. PG-13 ★★					Colombiana (2011, Action) Zoe Saldana. PG-13 ★★½					Martin
BRAVO	18	44	185	Housewives	Real Housewives (R)		Real Housewives (R)		Real Housewives (R)		Real Housewives (R)		Real Housewives (R)	
CNBC	15	24	102	Money	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	78	25	100	(6:00) Lead	Erin Burnett OutFront		Anderson Cooper 360°		The Source with Kaitlan		CNN NewsNight		Laura Coates Live	
COMEDY	45	50	190	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Family Guy	Family Guy
DISC	66	27	120	Expedition	Expedition X (R)		Mysteries of the (R)		Mysteries of the (R)		Mysteries of the (R)		Mysteries of the (R)	
DISNEY	49	31	250	Kiff	(7:15) Kiff: Kiff And Barry		Phineas	Phineas	Wizards	Phineas	Phineas	Chibiverse	Miraculous	Miraculous
E!	24	51	196	(6:00) Easy A (2010, Comedy)			Bad Moms (2016, Comedy) Mila Kunis. R ★★★				Easy A (2010, Comedy)			
ESPN	28	36	70	Sports	Athletes Unlimited Softball: Cascade vs. Bandits				ESPN Films		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	29	35	74	Football	Nine for IX: Venus vs.		30 for 30		Peyton's	USL Soccer: Boise AC at One Knoxville SC. Live.				Peyton's
FBN	43	106	117	Bottom	Wall Street	Roundtable	Kelsey Grammer (R)		Kelsey Grammer (R)		Kelsey Grammer (R)		Kelsey Grammer (R)	
FNC	44	26	118	Spc. Rpt.	The Ingraham Angle		Jesse Watters Primetime		Hannity		Gutfeld!		Fox News @ Night	
FOOD	50	97	164	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Kitchen Nightmares		Kitchen Nightmares	
FREE	38	49	199	Lion King	Beetlejuice (1988, Comedy) Michael Keaton. PG ★★★½				The Haunted Mansion (2003) Eddie Murphy. PG ★★				The 700 Club (R)	
FS1	400	99	83	Harvick	Indycar NICS Racing: 110th Indianapolis 500 Replay.				INDYCAR	TMZ Sports	FIFA World Cup Live.		FIFA World Cup Live.	
FX	10	40	53	(5:30) Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (2023, Action) Chris Pratt.					The Bear	(9:34) 21 Jump Street (2012, Comedy) Jonah Hill, Channing Tatum.				
HALL		191	240	(6:00) Movie			Movie				Golden	Golden	Golden	Golden
HGTV	64	98	165	Fabulous	Fixer to Fabulous		Crashers: Going Hard		Crashers		Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters
HIST	40	47	128	Secrets (R)	Secrets Declassified (R)		Secrets Declassified (R)		Secrets Declassified		(10:03) Ancient Aliens		(11:05) Ancient Aliens (R)	
ID	23	171	123	Neighbor	Fear Thy Neighbor		Fear Thy Neighbor		Dead Influence		Lethally Blonde		The Playboy Murders	
LIFE	62	45	140	(6:00) NCIS	NCIS: Red Cell		NCIS: Hometown Hero		NCIS: SWAK		(10:03) NCIS: Twilight		NCIS: Kill Ari, Pt. 1	
MeTV	33	33	3	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy	Andy	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Golden	Golden	Burnett	P. Mason
MSG	27	87	78	USL Soccer	Fight Sports World Class Championship Boxing				Fight Sports (R)		NY Knicks 2026 Championship Parade Replay.			
MSG Plus	48	88	80	The Wager	The Wager	Fairways of Life		Golf Life	NHL Hockey: Patrick Division Finals, Game 5 Replay.				NHL Hockey Replay.	
MSNOW	14	23	103	Ari Melber	The Weeknight		All in with Chris Hayes		The Briefing Jen Psaki		Lawrence O'Donnell		The 11th Hour with Ali	
MTV	20	53	210	Ridiculous	Jersey Shore: Family (R)		Jersey Shore: Family		Jersey Shore: Family		Joe Dirt (2001, Comedy) David Spade. PG-13 ★★½			
NATGEO	65	162	121	Pole to (R)	(6:57) Pole to Pole (R)		(7:59) Pole to Pole (R)		Voyagers Waters		Voyagers Waters		Pole to Pole (R)	
NICK	6	121	252	SpongeBob	The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (2004) PG ★★★				Friends	Friends	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang
OWN	173	180	145	Family	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		TNT Sports Specials: One Golden Summer				Unlocked Secret	
PARMT	36	56	54	(6:00) Yellowstone: Daybreak (R)			(8:05) Yellowstone (R)		(9:15) Yellowstone: No Good Horses (R)			(10:22) Yellowstone (R)		Yellowsto.
SNY	26	60	77	Minor League Baseball: Worcester Red Sox at Syracuse Mets. Live.						Mets Yearbook: 2024		Yearbook	Sports	Sports
SYFY	17	48	180	(6:00) Men in Black II (2002, Action) ★★			Men in Black III (2012, Science Fiction) Will Smith. PG-13 ★★★					The Green Hornet (2011) Seth Rogen.		
TBS	8	39	52	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Foul Play	Foul Play
TCM	82	41	230	(6:00) Hobson's Choice (1954, Comedy)			Blood on the Moon (1948) NR ★★★			(9:45) Vertigo (1958, Thriller) James Stewart, Kim Novak. NR ★★★★				
TLC	52	28	139	90 Day (R)	90 Day: Last (R)		90 Day: The Last Resort		Little Singles		Jay & Pamela		Baylen Out Loud (R)	
TNT	3	37	51	(5:00) Man of Steel (2013, Action) ★½			All Elite Wrestling: Collision: from Viejas Arena in San Diego. Live.					Kong: Skull Island (2017) PG-13 ★★★		
TVLAND	85	34	241	Andy	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	(9:20) Loves Raymond		Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Queens	Queens
USA	16	38	50	(6:00) SVU	Law & Order: SVU		Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle (2017, Action) Dwayne Johnson.					Everything	Law & Order: SVU	
VH1	19	52	217	Wife/Kids	Wife/Kids	Wife/Kids	Like Mike (2002, Comedy) Bow Wow. PG ★★					Kicking and Screaming (1995) R ★★★		
WE	59	42	149	(6:00) NCIS	NCIS: Phoenix		NCIS: Lost at Sea		NCIS: The Namesake		NCIS: Shell Shock (Pt.1)		NCIS: Shell Shock (Pt. 2)	
YES	53	89	76	Homegrown	Minor League Baseball Live.					Major League Cricket: Seattle Orcas at MI New York. Live.				
HBO	511	301	400	Mortal Kom	(7:19) Last Week (R)		Life Larry	(8:35) Deadpool 2 (2018, Action) Ryan Reynolds. ★★★½				(10:38) Of the Dragon (R)		Life Larry
MAX	531	371	420	A Different Man (2024, Comedy) Sebastian Stan. R				(8:31) Red Riding Hood (2011, Fantasy)			(10:11) The Wolfman (2010, Horror) Benicio Del Toro.			
MGM Plus	595		395	(5:55) Emma (1996, Romance) PG ★★★			She's All That (1999) Freddie Prinze Jr.			(9:40) The Terminal (2004, Drama)				Forces ★★
PARSHO	551	321	365	Snake Eye	(7:15) Django Unchained (2012, Western) Jamie Foxx, Christoph Waltz. R ★★★★						The Chi: Truth Thaws		Faster (2010) R ★★½	

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TWO BAD!

KNICKS FANS MOURN MITCH DECISION TO JOIN HATED CELTICS

PAGES 59-56

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NEW YORK POST

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2026

The t Sports In Town®

10 IS ENOUGH!

2-0

UP NEXT: ROUND OF 16
VS. BELGIUM
MONDAY ● 8 P.M. ● FOX

U.S. nets historic win despite playing down a man for 36 minutes

Folarin Balogun celebrates his first-half goal before being controversially sent off in the second half. The U.S. not only protected a one-goal lead down a man but added a Malik Tillman strike to move into the Round of 16.

PAGES 60-61, 47

Getty Images, Reuters (inset)